WORLD SOCCER

SEPTEMBER 1967

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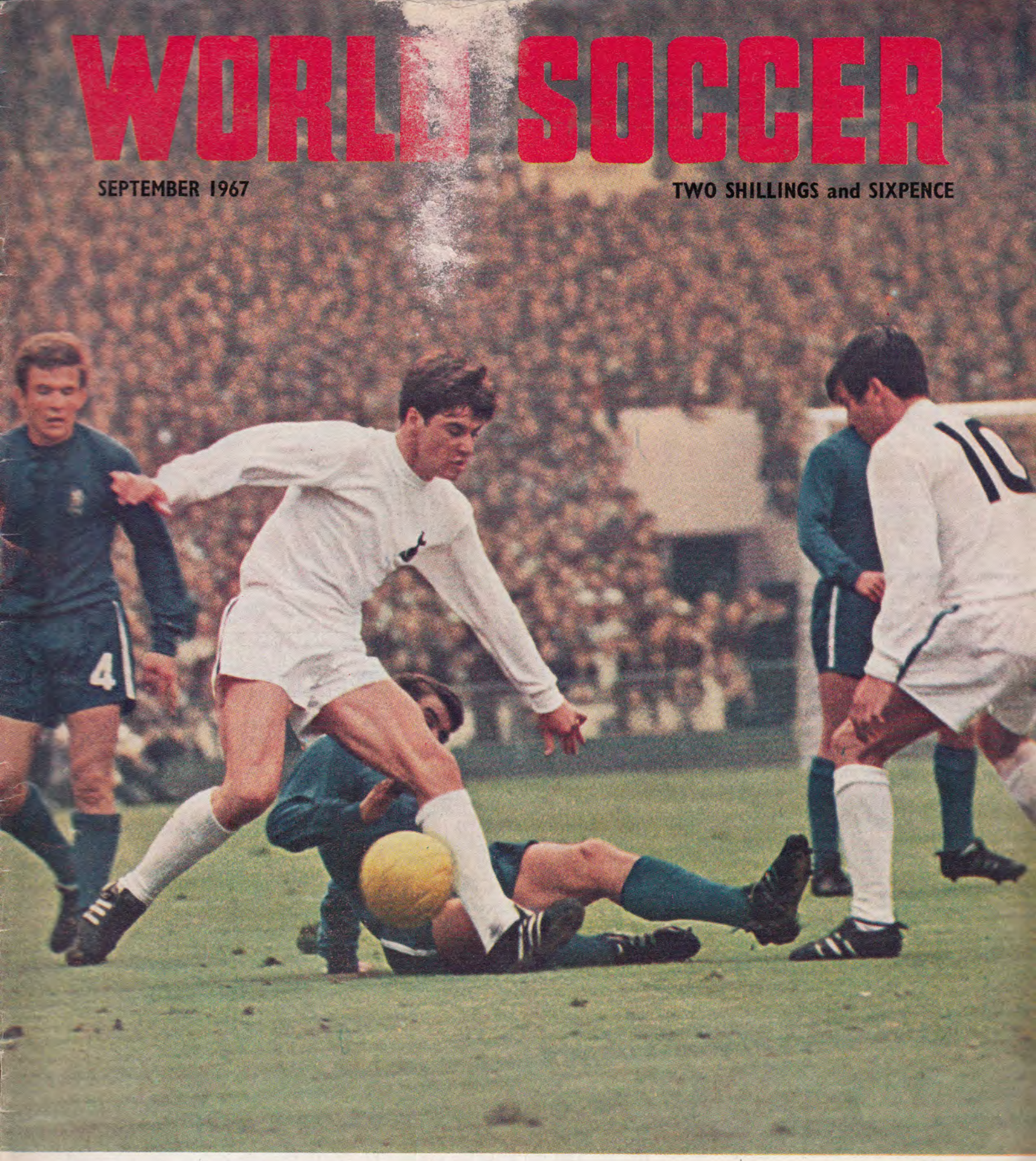

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Forthcoming Events—SEPTEMBER

Styles should marry

A SERIOUS study of world football over recent years would have revealed clear distinctions between the game as played in Britain, Germany and Russia compared with that which still prevails in Central Europe. Within the first group there is a clearly expressed belief that any team can be beaten by physical force, and recent events have apparently proved this to be true. But in Central Europe the pre-war maxims still linger ... "don't kick the ball, push it" ... and ... "don't tackle the man, intercept the ball". While each group would argue the merits of their approach, disinterested neutrals have long ago realised that the ideal game would be achieved by a marriage of the two creeds.

Sociologists of the future may well look back and argue that by nature the British, the Germans and the Russians were all aggressive, while the Hungarians were more artistic, but whatever the reasons it seems almost beyond hope that the marriage will ever be arranged.

Whatever the reasons, the division is clear and while Italy and Spain have to some degree bridged the gap, no one has yet succeeded in blending the best of, say, the British game with that of Hungary.

This has made the East German experiment all the more interesting for during the last four years Karoly Soos has been leading the bid to push the East Germans' game up the social ladder. Hungarian-born, Soos has been convinced for some time that training methods and not national characteristics are what determines the style of play.

Ridiculous

To a great extent Soos has been successful, for despite the ridiculous circumstances which keep East Germany out of Western Europe, his team has improved considerably. Unbeaten last year, the East Germans must now be close to their peak, for many of the current squad are approaching the point at which their physical qualities will begin to decline. If the experiment is to be successful, the East Germans must stake their claim soon.

By 1970 Erler, Frenzel, Noldner and Koerner will be at their peak and if Soos is to take his team to Mexico for their first World Cup, they will surely make their mark first in the European Championship. Having dropped a vital point (1-1 away to Denmark) the East Germans must now earn at least three points from this month's matches against Holland and Hungary, and an achievement of these proportions will clearly indicate that Soos is on his way.

Having beaten Holland by a whisker at home, after being 2-0 down in 12 minutes, the Dutch are almost out, but with the likelihood of Johan Cruyff being recalled after suspension by the KNVB they will provide a stiff test in Rotterdam.

The month's games

Norway v. Sweden, Oslo* 3
Finland v. Russia, Helsinki* 6
Austria v. Hungary, Vienna .....
Holland v. East Germany, Rotterdam* 13
Poland v. France, Chorzow* 17
Austria v. Finland, Vienna* 24
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by ERIC BATTY

The Hungarians will surely take no chances and three weeks before the East German clash, they have a "friendly" warm-up with neighbouring Austria who, in spite of several lean years, have often shown that they have the measure of the Magyars. Hungarian boss, Rudolf Illovsky, recently resumed responsibility for his old club, Vasas, who have fallen on hard times, but for the national squad he has ample talent at his disposal.

I believed that Illovsky was about to axe Florian Albert, preferring the courage and drive of Bene to the temperamental and fragile hero of FTC, but having recently been to Budapest I realise this is not "on". Illovsky conceivably might think it a good idea, but the press and public wouldn't let him!

So we must look forward to a lengthy period in which the Hungarian game will promise much but achieve little. The Austrians, apparently stirred from their apathy by the new boss, Erwin Alge, gave a fighting display in Moscow recently, where they lost by only 4-3. Further boosted by the promise of win bonuses for the first time, almost anything is possible.

Sweden's EC hopes soared with a surprise 2-1 win over Portugal last year, but since then all the old problems have returned. That win in Lisbon can now be put in perspective — it was due more to the Portuguese failings rather than Swedish brilliance. National boss Orvar Bergmark must be sorely troubled, for he has neither craft nor punch for his attack, and his slender resources are constantly being drained by foreign clubs. The latest to go abroad is full-back Axelsson, off to Belgium to play for FC Bruges, and Bergmark must know that if he produces a good forward either the Scots or the Americans will want him.

GERHARD KOERNER (ASK Vorwaerts Berlin and East Germany).

Like the Danes, the Swedes sorely need professionalism and the impetus and stability which would follow, but the real problem is simply that the clubs cannot afford it. With Finland leading the race for the Nordisk Cup and Sweden's last EC hopes dashed by Bulgaria there seems little justification for Bergmark hoping for success in Oslo.

Occasions

For many years now the Poles have been threatening to lift their game from the Second Division of the International League. On occasions they've registered big scores against other second-class teams and twice they've beaten Scotland. There's no shortage of talent and two of the younger players, Oslizlo and Szoltysik could hold their heads up in any company. Consistency seems to be beyond them, however, and though they might well overcome a re-formed French squad under new management they could just as well lose to Luxembourg a fortnight later.

The Russians are another matter altogether, for they are clearly intent on claiming and keeping a place in the top bracket. With at least one game a month this year and the hope of beating England to come in December, they will take no chances with little Finland. The Finns have modelled their "play" on the fighting style of England, yet while they have been seen to play against Denmark and Norway, I doubt if the Russians will notice their determination.

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World Soccer

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Editor:
JACK ROLLIN

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FRONT COVER PICTURE

Action from the 1967 FA Cup Final showing left to right John Hollins (Chelsea), Cyril Knowles (Spurs), Charlie Cooke on ground (Chelsea) and Terry Venables (Spurs).

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CUP DRAMAS . . .

A review of the domestic Cup Competitions in the European Countries by **ROGER MACDONALD**

FRANCE

OF all the Continental Cups, the French alone offers something of the British tradition of giant-killing, in spite of its absurd and uneconomical practice of playing all ties on neutral grounds. Since the war 14 Second Division clubs have reached the semi-final round, and three of them — Lens, Valenciennes and Le Havre — have played in the final, with Le Havre actually winning the Cup in 1959. More, four amateur clubs — Arras, Draguigan, Sedan and Brest — have appeared in the quarter-final round, an achievement beyond English clubs since the turn of the century.

Last season, in the 50th French Cup, two teams from the Second Division won a place in the last eight, one of them reaching the last four. The Corsicans, Bastia, put out the holders, Racing Strasbourg, and took Sochaux, the eventual finalists, to two replays and five-and-a-half hours of football before they lost 1-0 in extra time.

Angoulême, whose last appearance in the semi-final was back in 1947, were adopted by the Parisian public. Their goalkeeper, Miredin; full-backs Phelippon, Melloni and Poirot; wing-half Samper and a winger, Halberda, had all played previously for Racing Paris, most famous of all French clubs, now virtually extinct following a misguided merger with US Sedan-Torchy. So when Nantes, reigning champions and Cup-finalists in 1966, met them at the Parc des Princes, the ground was anything but neutral. They had a further grievance when Angoulême won, surviving a penalty which Miredin saved with a dive that clearly began before the referee blew his whistle.

Angoulême, though, were to run out of luck in the semi-final. They drew three times with Olympic Lyon, 3-3 after being 3-1 down at half-time, 1-1 twice after extra time. A new rule limited replays to two, so the referee, Vigliani, tossed a five-franc piece in the dressing-room; Goujon, Lyon's captain, called tails, and tails it was. Yet another competition had provided a situation where a team could be eliminated without losing a match.

Lyon, equally fortunate to beat Angers in the last eight — they were helped by two major errors by the referee, one of them irrefutable — were nevertheless too sharp and sophisticated for Sochaux in the final. General de Gaulle was in the 32,500 crowd, and horrified his bodyguards by throwing the ball back after an excessive Sochaux clearance — probably his only harmless interference for some time. Lyon took the lead after 25 minutes, when Di Nallo and Maison combined cleverly to reach Rambert, whose speculative cross passed between several defenders, unsighting the Sochaux goalkeeper, Manilos, who allowed it to skip past him into the net. Sochaux equalised with an equally unpredictable goal started by their captain, Quittet, whose fierce pass intended for Wisnieski was diverted past Zewulko by Leclerc, seizing a chance out of nothing.

But Lyon sustained their pressure to score twice in the final minutes. Rocco put Maison clear with a superb, diagonal pass from 25 yards, Perrin volleyed the centre with all his strength, Maniolos parried marvellously, but Perrin squeezed the rebound through the narrowest of gaps. Then Perrin and Di Nallo evaded Zimmerman and Laffon with fine footwork and opportunism, leaving Di Nallo to shoot through Manilos's legs from point-blank range. Lyon paraded with the Cup, but the Parisian crowd shouted "Angoulême, Angoulême!" To them the wrong team had reached the final.

BULGARIA

NEITHER CSKA nor Slavia Sofia, semi-finalists respectively in the European Cup and Cup-Winners' Cups, could emulate this feat in the Bulgarian Cup, surely the most difficult of all the national competitions in eastern Europe.

It is played, up to the semi-finals, on a group system resembling the World Cup, with goal average deciding in the event of a tie on points. This was enough for Spartak Sofia, a young, energetic side with three international defenders (Naidenov, Jetchev, Dimitrov) to eliminate CSKA, even though the clubs had drawn 1-1 at the Army Stadium.

In the semi-final Spartak met Beroe, who relied heavily on Jekov, the leading League scorer. Jekov scored five goals in the quarter-final group, sufficient to put out Slavia, the holders, but he was closely marked in the semi-final. Spartak and Beroe drew 1-1 after extra time, whereupon each team took penalties alternately until one was missed. With the score at 7-6 Naidenov got a hand to a less accurate kick by Jekov, and Spartak were in the final.

Their opponents, Levski, were able to include Asparoukhov, now restored to fitness, and he played a decisive part in their progress to the final. Levski scored 13 goals to win their three group matches, then beat Locomotive Sofia, who had eliminated the new champions, Botev Plovdiv. With Tzekov in fine form for Locomotive, the score fluctuated dramatically until the final minute, when, at 4-4, Asparoukhov beat three players on his own and scored with a tremendous shot.

Asparoukhov, again, opened the score in the final after 16 minutes, but the 50,000 crowd saw Spartak have more of the play for half-an-hour. Then a free-kick from Kostov all but decapitated a Spartak defender, the ball ricocheted to Kiev, whose ground shot found a gap. Nicolov's late goal put the destination of the Cup beyond all possible doubt. It was Levski's eighth Cup victory since the war — they won previously in 1946, 1947, 1949, 1950, 1956 and 1959 — and they should prove formidable opposition in the Cup-Winners' Cup.

Americo, currently Portugal's first choice goalkeeper. (M.I.)

GREECE

PANATHINAIKOS won the Greek Cup as a parting gift for their Yugoslav coach, the famous international forward, Stefan Bobek, who chose not to renew his contract. They had by far the more difficult path to the final, beating AEK Athens 2-1 and Apollon by the same score, the club who had surprisingly eliminated the champions, Olympiakos, 2-0 in the quarter-finals.

On an evening of shimmering heat the final was played almost at walking pace, and the Italian referee, Pieroni, showed a marked reluctance to move, let alone run, far from the centre circle. Panathinaikos, though, dominated the match and missed several chances before Grammos, their under-23 international winger, scored what proved to be the decisive goal. Panionos had a simple chance to equalise three minutes from time when Oekonomopoulos made a reckless and fruitless sortie from his charge, but Athanassoulas lost his head and slashed the ball wide, a blunder which the 35,000 crowd greeted with derision.

SPAIN

THE price of Di Stefano's jubilee against Celtic was a surprise defeat for Real Madrid in the Spanish Cup, which is played in home and away ties up to the final. Real lost 2-1 in Valencia, Jara and Waldo replying to Grosso's exciting opening goal, but were expected to win on aggregate. However, playing three days after the arduous match against Celtic, Real looked jaded, and little went right for them.

After 35 minutes Adelardo made a magnificent save from a competent penalty kick by Gento, punching out; Gento reached the rebound, but his second shot hit the post, and the ball was cleared after a prolonged mêlée. Valencia increased in confidence as their opponents tired, and went further ahead ten minutes from time through Waldo, leading scorer in the League: a rare home defeat for Real.

Di Stefano's new club, Elche, took a 2-1 lead in the first leg of the semi-finals. Romero scored after nine minutes, then again after 42, beating three players in a dribble that had to be seen to be believed. However, Valencia came back strongly, scoring through Jara on the hour, and then Elche, too, missed a penalty. Romero, on a hat-trick, was allowed to take it, and he shot the wrong side of a post. This lapse proved costly, for at home, watched by a record 60,000 crowd, Valencia won 2-0, both goals coming from the inimitable Waldo, to go through on aggregate.

Atletico Bilbao had little difficulty in beating Cordoba, tired after three matches against Pontevedra. They won 1-0 away, Zorriquieta scoring after 25 minutes, and 2-0 at home, Arieta and Uriata (from a penalty) adding after the break.

Thirty thousand Basques joined 20,000 fans from Valencia at Chamartin, where the final attracted a crowd of 120,000. The match, however, was disappointing, with Bilbao no match for their opponents in skill or spirit. Valencia scored a demoralising goal seconds before the interval when Totono, though challenged by two opponents, hooked over a fine centre for Waldo. Iribar parried his shot, but the ball ran loose to Jara, who all but broke the net in his eagerness to score. Ten minutes after half-time Paquito scored a second goal, and though Argoitia reduced the lead, Bilbao never believed in themselves enough to save the match. For Valencia it was a heartening success after 13 years: their last Cup win then was against Barcelona, 2-0.

ITALY

INTER-MILAN's attempt on the treble received its final blow in the Italian Cup semi-finals, where, after Mazzola's individual virtuosity had got them through against Fiorentina, they were astonishingly beaten 3-2 by a Second Division club, Padua. Juventus, too, were unexpectedly defeated by AC Milan, who went on to win the final at Rome for the first time in their history; the only goal was a superb, acrobatic shot from Amarildo.

PORTUGAL

BENFICA, after all, were not allowed to scratch from the Portuguese Cup by the FA: but there is nothing in the rules to prevent them fielding a reserve team, which was what they did, to lose, predictably, to the League runners-up, Academica.

Benfica Reserves would have been beaten heavily in the first leg of the quarter-finals but for an astonishing performance by their young goalkeeper, Jose Henrique, who seems destined for many international honours. He was unable, however, to prevent Ernesto from scoring in the 37th and 89th minutes, and when Serafim put Academica 3-0 ahead in Lisbon, saving the tie was beyond Benfica's powers.

Academica did well to win 2-1 at Sporting Braga, the Cup specialists, with fine goals from Jorge and Ernesto. Adao scored for Braga before the interval, but they fell away badly in the second half. An upset still seemed possible at Coimbra when Perrichon levelled the tie after only four minutes, but Academica's lanky full-back, Marques, ran the length of the field to level the second leg, and thereafter the students had their opponents' measure. Ernesto put them two goals ahead, Mario was sent off for kicking, and Jorge and Ernesto scored twice more in the last six minutes.

Vitoria Setubal, meanwhile, beat Porto 3-0, all three goals coming from the former Benfica player, Pedras, and against the Portuguese international goalkeeper, Americo. Pedras scored another hat-trick in the second leg, where Porto, 4-2 behind on the hour, made a fine recovery to draw.

The final, in front of 60,000, proved a protracted affair, so long, in fact, that both teams were tottering with fatigue at the end. Academica scored first when Ernesto was brought down within a metre of the penalty area. Vitoria lined up but left a small gap which outside-right Celestinho found with a fierce and meticulous shot, all along the ground. Vitoria rallied, scoring through Jose Maria before the interval, and it was only the acrobatics of Malo that kept Academica on level terms. In ordinary extra time Gaerreino put Vitoria ahead from a left-wing cross, but Rocha, Academica's captain, produced an equally fine burst on the wing and Ernesto stabbed the ball home. The teams now played on until another goal was scored, in the 144th minute of play, by Jacinto Joao.

WEST GERMANY

THE first Cup and Cup double (Cup-Winners' and national) went to Bayern Munich, who, with Beckenbauer committed to strengthening the defence, relied on Müller and Olhauser to score the goals. Olhauser's opportunism got Bayern through a difficult away match at Schalke in the quarter-finals, and, in Müller's absence, he scored twice in their 3-1 victory over 1860 Munich in the semi-final round.

Müller, wearing a leather sheath to protect his broken arm, and HSV's Uwe Seeler, recovered from yet another operation on his Achilles tendon, returned for the final. But while Seeler was effectively marked by Olk, Müller scored the vital opening goal after 23 minutes. Hamburg kept their hopes alive for more than an hour, but two fine shots from Brenninger and another goal from Müller ended their resistance.

Colin Jose in the U.S.A.

WOLVES WIN THE TITLE

WOLVERHAMPTON Wanderers representing Los Angeles, and newly promoted to the English First Division, captured the championship of the Western Division of the United Soccer Association mini league and also the overall title after meeting Aberdeen, the winners of the Eastern Division in the final, winning 6-5.

To win the Eastern Section Aberdeen came from behind to overtake Stoke City, who were unbeaten in their first seven starts. Aberdeen represent Washington DC. Hibernian were also in with a chance to win this section but a tie with Glentoran in their final game put them out of the running.

Each team in the USA played every other team once, and played one team twice. This was done so that each team should play an even twelve games. The team that each club played a second game against was usually considered to be the one likely to attract most interest, and therefore the largest gates.

For example the two Texas teams Houston and Dallas met twice, as did the Canadian clubs Vancouver and Toronto. Attendance figures show that this did not bring the results anticipated.

Ray Bloomfield, who left Aston Villa for Atlanta Chiefs. (W.I.)

Disappointing

The most surprising thing from a playing point of view in the USA was the poor showing of Bangu, who as champions of the Rio de Janeiro league, were the strongest team on paper. With Ubirajara in goal, a first-class defender in Mario Tito and forwards like Peixhinho, Paulo Borges and Aladim they should have finished higher than fourth in the six-team Western Division.

Against Sunderland in Vancouver they were brilliant, and the English club looked out of their class. Borges got a hat-trick after Fernando had given them the lead, and they went on to win 4-1. The feature of the game was a fantastic save by Montgomery on a free kick from Borges. Colin Todd scored for Vancouver.

Sunderland: Montgomery; Irwin, Kinnell, Heslop (Todd), Parke; Baxter, Herd; Suggett, O'Hare, Martin (Gauden), Mulhall.

Bangu: Ubirajara (Neri); Fidelis (Cabrita), Mario Tito, Alberto, Pedrinho; Ocimar, Jaime; Peixinho (Cabralzinho), Fernando, Borges, Aladim.

Bangu never produced this form again and even lost to Shamrock Rovers 1-3. Three days later Hibernian beat Shamrock Rovers 6-1 in Toronto and the teams in this game were:

Hibernian: Allan; Duncan, Davis; Stanton, Madsen, Cousin (Grant); Quinn, Cormack, Scott, Stein, McGraw.

Shamrock Rovers: Dunne; Noland, Courtney; Kearin, Pugh, Fullan; O'Neill, Wood, Gilbert, Leech, Meditieri.

Colin Grant came on as a substitute after an injury to Alan Cousin, and scored three goals, the others came from Stein, Cormack and Scott. Mickey Leech got the lone goal for the Dublin club.

Carlos Meditieri, who played for the Toronto Falcons last year, played at outside-left for Shamrock Rovers. Meditieri has signed to play for the Boston club next season.

The other South American team, Cerro, were also a disappointment, finishing behind Glentoran, who are only part-timers in Northern Ireland. Glentoran did much better than most people expected and only lost three of their twelve games.

Cagliari, who after the fiasco in Toronto, when they walked off the field, were declared *persona non grata* in Canada, were involved in another incident in their final game in San Francisco. The Sardinian team pushed, kicked and threw a few punches in their goalless draw with the Dutch team ADO.

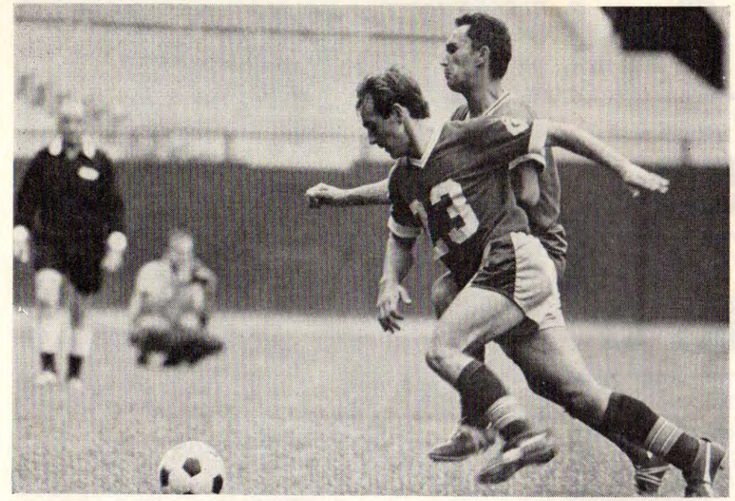
One would hope and think that this is the last time this team will be allowed to play exhibition games outside of Italy. As a result of the Toronto game goalkeeper Reginato and defenders Tiddia and Longo were suspended.

EASTERN DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Aberdeen (Washington)	**12**	**5**	**5**	**2**	**19**	**11**	**15**
Stoke City (Cleveland)	12	5	4	3	19	13	14
Hibernian (Toronto)	12	4	5	3	23	17	13
Glentoran (Detroit)	12	3	6	3	11	18	12
Cerro (New York)	12	2	6	4	15	17	10
Shamrock Rovers (Boston)	12	2	3	7	12	26	7

WESTERN DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Wolves (Los Angeles)	**12**	**5**	**5**	**2**	**21**	**14**	**15**
ADO (San Francisco)	12	5	3	4	25	19	13
Cagliari (Chicago)	12	3	7	2	20	14	13
Bangu (Houston)	12	4	4	4	19	18	12
Sunderland (Vancouver)	12	3	5	4	20	28	11
Dundee United (Dallas)	12	3	3	6	14	23	9



Julio Alas (23), N.Y. Generals defenceman, checks unidentified Los Angeles Toros forward during encounter in N.Y. Note empty seats in background. Alas is formerly of Boca Jr., Argentina. (B. Jerome.)

Most of the games in the USA were played in the afternoons and the heat of the sun obviously had its effect on the players, the standard of play, and the attendances. It has been noticeable in both leagues (the USA and the NPSL) that the standard of play has been much higher in evening games.

Here are the final tables in the USA (see facing page).

In addition to the games in the United Soccer Association a number of clubs made tours of North America this summer. Among these were Chelsea, this year's losing FA Cup Finalists in England; Eintracht Brunswick, who won the Bundesliga championship in West Germany; and LKS Lodz, a Polish First Division club.

Chelsea manager Tommy Docherty was not too happy with his club's experiences, and says that Chelsea will not play in any more end of the season tours. In a game played at the Manning Bowl at Lynn, Chelsea lost 1-3 to Brunswick.

The German and Polish teams met three times during their tours and ended all square. Brunswick won 3-2 in Chicago, the second game was drawn 2-2 in Milwaukee, and in Toronto Lodz won 2-1.

Attractive

The Poles well deserved their win in Toronto, for they had more of the play and played the more attractive football. Zygmunt Gutowski, who played in an attacking centre-half role, and Slawomir Sarna as one of the link men, both had outstanding games for Lodz, while only Gerd Saborowski of the Germans impressed. It was not until the 33rd minute of the second half that a goal was scored, although the Poles came close on three separate occasions in the first half.

It was Brunswick who scored first, Lothar Ulsass driving the ball in off an upright. Lodz tied the score six minutes later through Lucjan Brychczy, and the same player gave the Poles victory two minutes from time.

Eintracht Brunswick: Wolter; Meyer, Kaack, Moll; Saborowski (Dulz), Simon, Schmidt; Gerwien (Krause), Ulsass, Grzyb, Maas.

LKS Lodz: Grotynski; Kowalski, Szadkowski, Szefer; Sarna, Gutowski, Suski; Nowak, Sadek, Pieszko (Brychczy), Stachura (Studniorz).

Pete Rozelle, commissioner of the National Football League (American Football), says he is about to make some league laws prohibiting owners of teams in the National and American Football Leagues from being major shareholders in professional soccer.

This could seriously affect professional soccer and in particular five clubs. The major shareholders in the NPSL clubs, the Los Angeles Toros, Philadelphia Spartans and St. Louis Stars, and the USA clubs, the Dallas Tornados and the Detroit Cougars, all own teams in one or the other of the American Football Leagues.

Unless, of course, other backers are found, these clubs could go out of existence if this law is passed.

When you consider acts like this, plus the fact that newspapers discourage soccer whenever possible, you begin to wonder if the owners of teams in other major North American sports are not a little afraid of their investments if soccer should catch on.

Talks of a merger have been occurring again frequently as the USA and the NPSL consider their losses over the current season. It is estimated that to date owners are 10,000 dollars out of pocket.

Certainly a merger could help a great deal, for it would eliminate the confusion in people's minds, and pool resources, as well as produce a better calibre of soccer if there are less teams trying to obtain what talent there is available.

While the USA mini league has been in operation it has diverted attention away from the NPSL, where the California Clippers are pulling away from the rest of the field in the Western Division.

Although still bottom, Toronto have been playing well in recent weeks but had a lot of leeway to catch up after their poor start when they lost most of the twelve games already lost. Chicago also continue to improve, but St. Louis, at one time the best team in the Western Division, have been unable to pull out of their slump.

It's a tougher fight at the top of the Eastern Division with both Baltimore and Pittsburgh running neck and neck, none of the other teams appear likely to challenge them the way they are playing at the moment.

Most clubs are still on the look-out for new talent, to help them improve their present position or for next season. If the leagues do not merge then there will be quite a competition.

Recently Philadelphia have signed Jose Vidal, the former Real Madrid star, and the New York Generals acquired George Kirby, who has played for Everton, Sheffield Wednesday, Southampton, Swansea and Walsall in England.

EASTERN DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Baltimore Bays	**21**	**10**	**6**	**5**	**48**	**51**	**111 (26)**
Pittsburgh Phantoms	21	7	7	7	44	49	100 (21)
Atlanta Chiefs	20	7	4	9	33	31	85 (18)
Philadelphia Spartans	19	6	6	7	28	29	77 (18)
New York Generals	18	5	4	9	28	31	67 (14)

WESTERN DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
California Clippers	**20**	**13**	**3**	**4**	**38**	**21**	**124 (29)**
Los Angeles Toros	22	7	8	7	26	27	92 (22)
St. Louis Stars	20	7	6	7	31	29	90 (20)
Chicago Spurs	21	5	9	7	28	34	84 (19)
Toronto Falcons	20	7	1	12	35	46	79 (15)

(Figures in brackets show how the points would look under the normal system.)

Talent find so rare

In Wales Peter Jackson

A NEW star is almost certain to be introduced by Wales to international soccer next season—a star about whom the Welsh FA knew nothing a mere five months ago.

The story of Stoke City inside-forward John Mahoney is indeed a remarkable one, remarkable because until as recently as early March soccer's rulers in the Principality were ignorant of his Welsh birth-certificate.

Mahoney had, at that time, become a much-wanted player. So much so that his club Crewe had to reject bids from Stoke and Liverpool.

Mahoney's big ambition was to play for England. Yet it was one of his Welsh relatives who made the first move in establishing Mahoney as a Welshman.

In England

Initially Crewe manager Ernie Tagg confirmed the popular belief that his starlet was an Englishman, born at Denton. But Tagg must have been curious. He checked the facts with Mahoney's mother, she told the Crewe boss her son was born in Cardiff—and Wales had stumbled over a star.

Now the Welsh, suffering from an embarrassing shortage of Under-23 material, were only too glad to add Mahoney's name to their list.

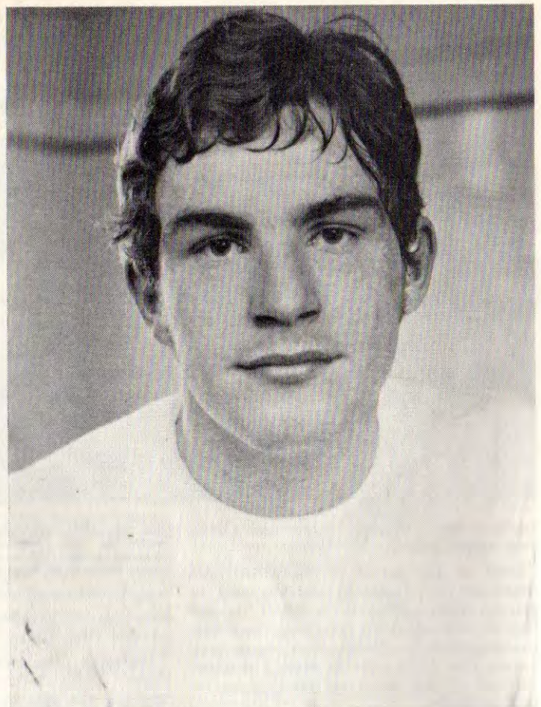
Within weeks the Welshman with the Irish name who had believed himself to be an Englishman, was in the Welsh Under-23 squad at Belfast's Windsor Park.

Rugby League

Then he moved from Crewe into the First Division with Stoke and the son of a Rugby League father had reached the big-time.

Wales team-manager Dave Bowen was delighted at the discovery of Mahoney—delighted enough to have considered him for full-international duty against Northern Ireland last April.

Instead Wales plumped for the experience of Roy Vernon—recalling Mahoney's Stoke colleague after considerable international absence because of injury.



JOHN MAHONEY. (W.I.)

It is now only a matter of time before Mahoney—at 21 still eligible for the much-battered Welsh Under-23 side—collects a senior cap.

His chance may come at Ninian Park in October when Wales meet England. Clearly Bowen's major problem is at inside-forward.

No Younger

Vernon isn't getting any younger and the gap left by the abdication last season of record-breaker Ivor Allchurch hasn't been properly filled.

It is unlikely that Bowen will revert to his double-Davies partnership. Wyn Davies lost his place against the Irish in April after 16 matches and four goals.

Ron Davies, after his sensational season with Southampton, seems set to hold down the centre-forward's job for some time to come.

Mahoney apart, Wales has found no new players to threaten those who have already established themselves in the senior squad. Brilliant Gary Sprake is still without a serious challenger; Graham Williams and Peter Rodrigues still the first-choice full-backs and the half-back trio of Hennessey-England-Hole remains supreme.

The Welsh problems are still up front. Welsh FA officials have long been disturbed by the age-old club-or-country issue—an issue which forced them into fielding a much-changed team for the Irish match last season.

Forced out

The Welsh problem is such that when Sprake or Hennessey or England is forced out, no adequate reserves are at hand to fill the vacancy.

Little wonder, then, that Wales are firmly in favour of a plan to play off all domestic internationals in a short spell either at the start or end of a season.

With two points from their opening three European Championship Cup ties, Wales cannot really hope to emerge as serious contenders for group winners. Next season's fixtures offer home matches against England and Northern Ireland and a clash with Scotland at Hampden in November.

Humiliation

A full Under-23 programme will be played by Wales during the coming season—despite the humiliation of last season.

The Welsh team, composed largely of First Division reserves and Third-Fourth Division hopefuls, were slaughtered 8-0 by Young England at Molineux in October.

Changes aplenty were made for the home match with Scotland at Wrexham one month later. The changes did little to save the Welsh from a hiding.

A good Scottish side won as it pleased. In two matches the Welsh Under-23s had conceded 14 goals and scored none. They did get a goal in Belfast in February but the match was abandoned because of Arctic-like conditions with the Ulstermen leading 2-1.

Experiments

Next season the experiments will go on. Yet there is nothing to suggest that the results will be much different. Welsh officials feel their team will do better next term because of last season's experience. What an experience!

In Wales these days, the question is very much one of "Where have all the young footballers gone?" That should be a source of anxiety for the Welsh FA.

The World's Best Eleven?

LEV YASHIN
Moscow Dynamo & Russia

2 MARIO COLUNA
Benfica & Portugal

3 GIACINTO FACCHETTI
FC Internazionale & Italy

4 FRANZ BECKENBAUER
Bayern Munchen & West Germany

5 JAN POPLUHAR
Slovan Bratislava & Czechoslovakia

6 KALMAN MESZOLY
Vasas Budapest & Hungary

8 SANDRO MAZZOLA
FC Internazionale & Italy

10 DIMITER YAKIMOV
CSKA Sofia & Bulgaria

7 FERENC BENE
Ujpest Dozsa & Hungary

9 GEOFF HURST
West Ham & England

11 JANOS FARKAS
Vasas Budapest & Hungary

ERIC BATTY looks at the top current internationals

FOR some time past the emphasis in top-class football has been on rapidly built counter-attacks, with seven men withdrawing into a tight defensive shell in order to create ideal conditions for the strikers. Within this framework the demands made on individual ability were limited—restricted to the well-defined role that each player was asked to play. Now, however, we can see the first signs of a new movement back (or forward) towards combined team play in which defenders help in attack and forwards help in defence.

In the near future we are going to require greater skill from our defenders, and a higher work-rate from our forwards. The demand will be for players of all-round ability, and the team will expand and contract according to the run of the ball.

This year for the first time I have laid the emphasis on goal-scoring and this will be evident both in defence and attack. If we are going to ask our defensive players to break out, and help not only in building attacks, but also in rounding them off, our defenders must have not only the wit and the willingness to "come from behind" but also the ability to score goals.

To meet the needs of the modern game many coaches have already switched players who began their careers as forwards back into defence. I have done this with the Benfica captain Mario Coluna who made his début at centre-forward, moved to inside-left and later to wing-half.

I have also played Franz Beckenbauer out of position—if one considers his role for Bayern Munchen to be that for which he is best suited. I don't apologise for it, and indeed if I offend his boss Tschik Cajkowski—well that's all right too. In my view it's criminal to waste his talents in the role of *libero*.

Clearly it will not be long before Moscow Dynamo's Lev Yashin gives way to a younger man, but I recall having said that before. His most likely successor on present form is the Penarol and Uruguay star Mazurkiewicz who gained my vote last year. At that time Yashin had been unfit for a lengthy period and his career appeared to be over, but fully recovered after the World Cup it begins to look as if the Russian will go on for ever. We have seen many outstanding 'keepers in the last 20 years but in my mind Yashin stands supreme.

With right-back a problem position for me, I began to think back on all the great backs I'd seen, and for me the all-time great was Uruguay's star of their 1954 team—Andrade. Comparing him with the current crop of full-backs was unrewarding and I resolved to convert a player from another position.

Unusual

Analysing Andrade's style of play and his abilities I began to build up a mental picture of the ideal right-back, and when the picture was complete I recognised him ... Mario Coluna.

Despite Inter's sudden collapse last season left-back Giacinto Facchetti remains a clear choice for his position. He has the stamina to come forward often, and the intelligence which carries him at just the right time into exactly the right place. With head or foot Facchetti is deadly in front of goal, and he has the pace to recover which is vital for defenders who consistently follow up his colleagues in attack.

With the emphasis on attack I reject the *libero*, key man in the *catenaccio* system and rely instead on two centre-backs. With intelligence and anticipation a good pair can be almost as effective as the deepest defensive net and I have seen none better than Czechoslovakia's Jan Popluhar and Hungary's Kalman Meszoly. Cool, constructive and reliable they can both keep good players "in chains" without resorting to hacking and punching which is how the bulk of the TOP stoppers of today make up for their deficiencies.

For the vital role in midfield I can find none better than Franz Beckenbauer and Dimiter Yakimov who had a fine World Cup in 1966 and performed miracles in steering CSKA into the European Cup semi-final. Industrious, skilful and intelligent, Beckenbauer and Yakimov would be superb behind the front four I have named.

Here I should perhaps explain why for the first time there are no South Americans in my team. In Europe we are slowly moving away from the highly individualistic game which revolves around skilful forwards and edging step by step towards an integrated and methodical attack. The South Americans, and in particular Argentina and Uruguay, have clearly accepted the principles on which modern defensive planning are based, but they have yet to begin the task of reorganising attacking play.

Finally I have nominated an all European attack, including individuals who are already able to combat tight-marking defenders. Bene, Mazzola, Hurst and Farkas are all frequent scorers, adept at creating space for themselves and colleagues. Highly mobile and intelligent, each of my front players drops back to receive the ball from midfield, plays it away and is gone. They sprint, knowing that the return pass will not always come but knowing also that by going they will take opponents into bad positions, and create a chance for a colleague—and this is what modern football is all about.

FRANZ BECKENBAUER. (M.I.)

Referee Fitness in Question

says **TOM JAGGER**

MISTER Referee is heading for a good time. At any rate, a much better time than he's been having over these last hundred years.

Controlling associations in every part of the world are backing him in greater strength than ever before, and there is a growing demand for all-round improvement of his general status.

That's just as it should be, and it's only unfortunate that it has taken everybody so long to appreciate his value, and the vital part he plays in the game.

Perhaps those tempting £50-a-week offers from the States opened the eyes of a host of people, and made them realise possibly for the first time what a fine bunch of fellows we've got in these islands.

It is a fact, however, that from the very top of the Councils of the FA and the League referees are now being looked upon with greater approbation than has been the case for at least 20 years.

The World Cup has greatly helped them, of course. For every time a Britisher has been in charge of a game both sets of players and officials have usually been satisfied.

STAGGERED

I know there have been occasions when maniacs and fanatics have been bellowing for their blood, but, generally, our officials have come out on top which probably explains why so many are asked to take charge of so many overseas games year after year.

Dozens flew to Continental games last summer. Many hit the trail for the American venture. Yet just as many as usual were lining up for action when the home season opened in August.

They all looked supremely fit, too, though I gather that the Football League is now busily investigating this matter of health.

Apparently, they believe that the time has come when we should be no longer staggered at the amazing way in which referees battle through the worst of the weather, but entitled to expect that kind of thing.

Expect it by planning—planning keep-fit systems which will ensure all match officials being at the peak of good health from the start of each season to the finish, and then through the summer.

Good idea, son. Some may say that. Others will differ, especially those folk who take sly glances under the surface before reaching any firm decision.

QUESTIONNAIRE

But the Football League is apparently intent on pursuing this idea, believing that too long has elapsed without anything being done in that respect.

I understand that a questionnaire on the point has been quietly circulated among referees, asking in simple, plain language how, where and when they train, and what-have-you.

It's not that the League believe there is a general lack of fitness among officials, though there's no doubt some could be fitter.

Anyway, when all the replies have been sifted, and probably fed into the usual computer, the League is giving the matter further consideration and FA chief coach Alan Wade will be weighing in with his expert advice.

But don't get me wrong. It won't simply end with the League saying they've got to train this way or that, or else.

Rather, referees will be asked to study a keep-fit schedule, and apply themselves to it as rigorously as possible.

Now, that's where the trouble is going to start. In my opinion, at any rate. For referees are not youngsters who are able and willing to tackle almost anything on the athletics field.

Most are well in the thirties by the time they reach the top lists, and, embroiled in business careers during the week, have become fairly settled in ways of fitness, food and living.

If it is eventually suggested to them that they should report two or three nights a week at some special rendezvous for pepped-up training, or cut out certain foods, and adopt set menus there could be trouble.

DOUBTFUL

I've no doubt yearly training schedules could be set for younger officials as they come along the promotion line, then gradually tempered with the passing years.

That would be a vote catcher without any doubt, but this fitness problem will have to be tackled very carefully so far as the League's senior men are concerned.

One well-known whistler with whom I discussed this particular aspect got very hot under the collar when I pictured him sprinting around a well-known soccer pitch in the evenings.

He said: "You won't get me or at least a dozen others doing that. We'd pack up and tell 'em where to go before agreeing to such an idea.

"We keep sufficiently fit with our own training schedules without anyone else interfering, thank you."

I believe that many will accept keep-fit schedules, but the rest may demur, and, finally, say no even if it eventually means taking a very firm stand and resigning.

It's likely to be all part of a better deal, though somebody's going to find it tough implementing.

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Brian Glanville says . . .

AMALGAMATION IS A U.S. MUST

SIX weeks in the thick of the American soccer experiment, writing a column for the *New York Times*, left one with a sharper impression of its problems than its prospects. Though one remains optimistic, it cannot be pretended that the start has been a marvellously auspicious one; perhaps it was absurd to hope that it would. As it is, one brings back a memory of much dull football, tiny attendances, violent play, weak refereeing, political bickering, impossible heat, curious errors of policy. The well-known ability of Americans to learn quickly from their mistakes is possibly the best guarantee of better things in the future.

By the time you read this, progress may have been made towards amalgamating the official, USA, and the outlawed, NPSL, leagues. Clearly it will have to come, above all in those cities where there is a team in each league. There have been strong rumours that FIFA would like the NPSL to be given recognition, but though I still feel that the United States FA made a dog's dinner of handling the distribution of the franchise, this seems to me to exacerbate the dilemma, rather than to solve it.

Both sides know amalgamation must come, though there are elements on each which are noisily resisting it. In San Francisco, where the Golden Gate Gales—Puskas has a three-year player-coach contract with them—confront the Oakland California Clippers, across the bay, George Fleharty, the Gales' owner, has said he won't go into a 50-50 partnership. "That's husband and wife stuff." In Toronto, both clubs want 51% of the stock; one scarcely needs to be a mathematician to realise this means deadlock. In Los Angeles, the owners of the two clubs, the LA Wolves and the LA Toros, are bitter enemies, having quarrelled over the city's ice hockey franchise. Jack Kent Cooke, the owner of the officially recognised Los Angeles Wolves, who got the franchise, was eventually forced to build his own rink, so he could have somewhere to play on.

One possible compromise would be for the eventually combined league to offer an excluded owner a franchise elsewhere; but what if neither party were willing to accept it? The statement made by John Allyn of the official Chicago Mustangs club hardly suggests that he, and other owners in two-team cities, are going to move out willingly: "The NPSL is an outlaw league, and it must be punished for its many misdeeds. It is difficult to treat the other league as equals. How do you whitewash them after all they've done?"

Unfortunately for the firebrands of the USA league, the NPSL happens to include clubs such as Atlanta and Baltimore which have behind them immensely wealthy, extremely well run baseball organisations. They also include St. Louis, a city long well disposed to football, where there is much soccer activity in the schools. A future national league of any serious pretensions can scarcely exclude such clubs.

If the NPSL has so far been a dull, defensive, over violent league—as one might, in the circumstances, have expected—the USA League has barely begun. The exhibition tournament played by foreign teams from May to July, and won by the Wolves (to my own satisfaction; I recommended them to Mr. Kent Cooke after a sudden phone call from Los Angeles) was no more than an *aperitif*; and not a very compelling one.

George Kirby, signed for the New York Generals by their manager Freddie Goodwin. (Prov. 1.)

Generally speaking, the crowds were poor; even in the remarkable Houston Astrodome, where Bangu of Rio played, and played badly, attendances slipped from over 30,000 to 15,000.

New York was perhaps the greatest disappointment, and will constitute one of the greatest challenges to the new movement. Madison Square Garden, who own the New York Skyliners, wanted an Italian team (after the barbaric, referee-chasing, exhibition at Yankee Stadium by Cagliari's supporters, perhaps it's as well they didn't get one) but had to make do with Cerro of Montevideo.

As everyone knows, Uruguay has two teams, Nacional and Penarol. Last season, Cerro came third, which is rather like being the tallest man in Lilliput. With a fine manager such as Ondino Viera, with a first-rate doctor and physiotherapist, who assisted Viera with the 1966 Uruguayan World Cup team, they were by no means to be despised. But as a team, they were dull; *catenaccio*-playing, meagre in attack, where their Brazilian right-winger, Benedicto Ribeira, a poor man's Garrincha, was provokingly inconsistent.

Depleted

In a city like Dallas, where nobody knew one side of a football field from the other, people would and did still go to watch a depleted, unsuccessful Dundee United. In Atlanta, Georgia, of the NPSL, people rolled up 10,000 and more strong to see Phil Woosnam's assortment of players. But in New York, people are either completely uninterested in soccer, and have too much to distract them to want to know about it—or they know too much about it to want to watch a team as dull as Cerro or as disorganised as the unhappy Generals.

The predicament of the Generals, and their likeable coach, Fred Goodwin, the ex-Scunthorpe manager, can best be summed up by an anecdote. Micky Ash, the little Sheffield forward who came to New York with Goodwin, from Scunthorpe, told me, "I wasn't getting any passes from the Argentinians, then I realised I'd been calling Plas, Mas and Mas, Plas."

Goodwin's British players are honest, hard working Third Division men. His Argentinians are talented, lazy, selfish ball

● *Continued on page 17*

INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM

Each month on these pages we go back over the major internationals played since the last issue. The particular games featured are indicated at the head of the article for quick reference.

by GORDON JEFFERY

Friendlies not devoid of passion

June 18:	Czechoslovakia 3	Turkey 0	Bratislava (EFC)
,, 25:	Rumania 0	Italy 1	Bucarest (EFC)
,, 25:	Norway 0	Bulgaria 0	Oslo (EFC)
,, 25:	Uruguay 0	Brazil 0	Montevideo
,, 28:	Uruguay 2	Brazil 2	Montevideo
,, 29:	Denmark 1	Sweden 1	Copenhagen
July 1:	Uruguay 1	Brazil 1	Montevideo
,, 16:	USSR 4	Greece 0	Tbilisi (EFC)

Ivair, centre-forward of Portuguesa. (A.)

THERE is still a place, and a need, for friendly matches in the international and inter-club calendar. At their simplest level they provide experience of unfamiliar atmospheres, environments, styles of play, attitudes of refereeing—and the opportunity to experiment with tactics, to blood aspirants, to develop playing ideas, and so on.

Nor, of course, are they anæmic, passionless affairs. There is probably as high a proportion of players sent off or warned in friendlies as in competitive matches — a hack on the shin is just as painful and the kicked player's reaction will be just as instinctive! It would be more appropriate perhaps if we put the term "friendly match" into the past and used the more cumbersome but more exact—"non-competitive" match. And these are getting fewer each year at international level. Every one of the eight matches listed above was competitive—the more important four in the European Football Championship; the fifth European match (Denmark-Sweden) in the Scandinavian Championship, now in its last lap; and the three Montevideo matches all for the Copa Baron de Rio Branco.

This is another of those South American competitions of somewhat chiaroscuro origin. I saw a note in one of our Continental football papers that suggested that the present contest was the first for ten years. That may be right, or the ten years may have been meant metaphorically. I make it that the competition, between Brazil (los norteños) and Uruguay (los celestes), was initiated in 1931, competed for that year and the following year, then again in 1940. Then forgotten until 1946 when some closer sympathy between the two countries possibly encouraged it to be staged again in 1947 and 1948, and finally (according to my records) in 1950. Brazil won the first two competitions and again in 1947 and 1950. Uruguay won in 1940, 1946 and 1948.

Why revive it again in 1967? Probably for no better (or worse) reason than that Brazil, notable absentees from the South American Championship of January of this year, felt that it was time that they did return to international football (they have been in hiding since the 1966 World Cup), time that they brought some of their promising younger players together for collective training and for match-play, and that preferably they were tested in some sort of competitive encounter.

Something of the 1958-to-1962 sense of Brazilian supremacy still lingers and there is a temptation to see into much of their planning virtues that are not there. Much of the pre-1966 talk of careful planning, of netting a vast crop of players and then systematically measuring them for size, temperament and ability, seems to me to have been based on a myth. It was more that the priority of interest claimed by clubs like Santos and Palmeiras often forced the national organisation to look further afield. The best players of those two clubs were out of the reckoning for these Rio Branco Cup matches but it is possible that, on this occasion, Aimore Moreira would not have been much interested in them had they been available.

Significance

The competition itself is of no particular significance — even allowing for the exceptionally cold weather the 4,000 spectators in Montevideo's famous Centenario Stadium to watch the second of the three matches could scarcely have inspired either team to believe that the result mattered much! More imtantly, however, the emergence of a club like Cruzeiro from the nether regions of Brazil may have persuaded Aimore Moreira and his supporters to feel less dependent upon the players of the big clubs of the Rio and Sao Paulo regions: to look elsewhere by choice and not only from expediency.

Quality

There had been a hint in the 1966 World Cup that there was star quality to be found in the cases of the two young players, Alcindo and Tostao. These were the only players from outside of Rio/Sao Paulo to edge into places in Brazil's World Cup "22". Both had made odd appearances in what Brazil liked to call their "B" team (but FIFA rate officially as "A") in that hectic programme of matches played in Brazil during May and early June 1966. Both gained places in the World Cup squad. Alcindo did not play in either of the two full internationals in Europe prior to the WC matches in England but Tostao got his chance against Sweden in place of the injured Amarildo and scored two of Brazil's two goals in that match.

It was however Alcindo who was preferred for the opening World Cup match against Bulgaria. Tostao got his World Cup blooding—as Pelé's understudy no less—in the second match against Hungary, when he scored Brazil's only goal incidentally. There could be few complaints about the World Cup play of Alcindo from Gremio, or Tostao from Cruzeiro.

Both were in the Brazil pre-match training squad for this Rio Branco excursion but it is a little unfair to two or three of the others to suggest, as has been suggested, that these youngsters were the only experienced international players in Brazil's squad. The defender Jurandir, although he had been in the shadows a bit since, played in Brazil's pre-World Cup matches in 1962 and was in the "22" for that tournament. Dias—this is Roberto DIAS Branco not the Palmeiras player, DJALMA Pereira DIAS (both of whom were in the 1966 World Cup "40"—appeared on the international scene in 1963 he played in seven consecutive matches during the European tour of April and May of that year), and continued to turn out fairly regularly in the following years. The goalkeeper, Felix, and forward, Ivair, have both played in fairly recent matches for Brazil's "B" team. But those four players are from "big" clubs—Jurandir and Dias with Sao Paulo and Felix and Ivair with Portuguesa. The greater interest was in the players from outside of the Rio or Sao Paulo regions. In the squad were Cruzeiro players Raul, Hilton Olivella, Piazza, Dirceu Lopes, Natal and, of course, Tostao. Everaldo and Volmir came with Alcindo from Gremio, and the Internacional club provided Sadi and Scala.

Training

Not all played in the actual matches but probably gained from the collective training stint. Uruguay fielded strong teams and Brazil's evidence of defeat in any of the matches, particularly playing as they did in climatic conditions that were bad for both sides but worse for the visitors, was a good showing. Players like Sadi in defence, Piazza, who captained the side, and Dirceu Lopes, of the previously untried, all gave good performances *throughout* — and the circumstances of three matches in a week did serve to establish consistency of play as well as ability. It could be promising for Brazil's attempt to regain their lost crown in 1970—except that I recall the long procession of stars that have burst in the Brazilian firmament but then, almost as quickly, faded from the scene: Coutinho, Carlos Alberto, Rinaldo....

The European Football Championship matches played in this period have resulted in mixed feelings for some of the 1966 World Cup finalists.

Bulgaria, after effectively gaining a point over Portugal in their group, by winning in Stockholm against Sweden where Portugal had drawn ten days before, surrendered that advantage by only drawing against Norway in Oslo where Portugal had won. An interesting sequence of results:

June 1:	Sweden 1	Portugal 1	
,, 8:	Norway 1	Portugal 2	
,, 11:	Sweden 0	Bulgaria 2	
,, 25:	Norway 0	Bulgaria 0	

Bulgaria, however, have only to maintain their good home record with wins over Sweden and Portugal to be certain of heading their group. Portugal, hampered all the time by the two points they dropped at home against Sweden, must beat Bulgaria twice to have any chance, and implicit in the two Bulgarian results above is the feeling that the Bulgarians with their minds set upon keeping their goal intact will prove difficult even for Eusebio and Co. to score against—barring, that is, from penalties!

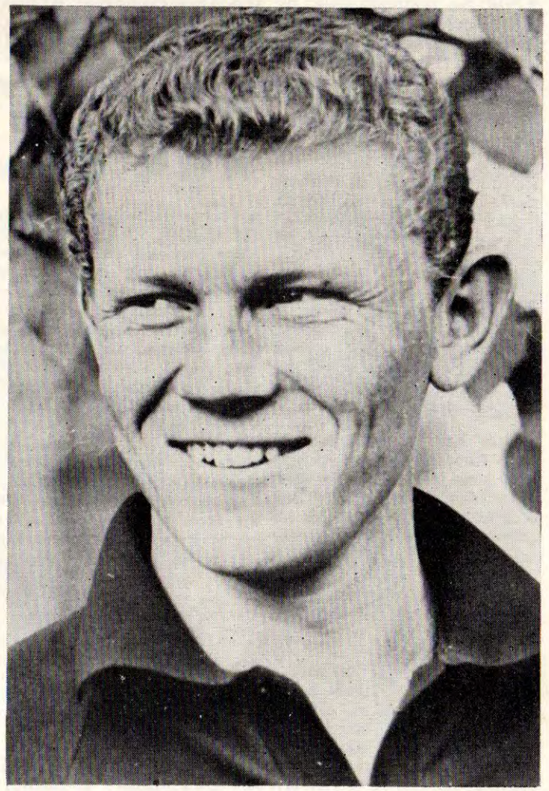
Seeded

Spain, the seeded World Cup qualifiers in Group One, keep their place at the head of the group table but their chance of being there at the end depends upon the Czechs dropping points —and this never looked likely against Turkey in Bratislava, as colleague Eric Batty, who saw this match, noted in his *Soccer Star* report. The most interesting point about this match was that the Czechs introduced 18-year-old Josef Jurkanin of Sparta Prague to the national side, and he marked his début with the third of his country's three goals. It was, Eric pointed out, "a technically impressive début" but he adds the warning that "too much glamour too soon (and too easy) is not good for any young player". I share that feeling in general and perhaps even more in respect of a Czech than of the players of many another country. I have long had a great admiration for the Czechs but how often that admiration, whether of the national side or of club sides like Dukla, has been strained by failures that seem to me to have resulted as much from lack of application as from playing defects. So often they have been the bridesmaid that they believe themselves never to be the bride. Their recent record is impressive with three away and one home win in succession since the goalless draw against England at Wembley last November—and in those five matches they have conceded only two goals.

Maximum

This match against Turkey was only the second played by Czechoslovakia in the present Championship. It brought their points tally to a maximum of four to be compared with Spain's six from four matches, and Turkey and the Republic of Ireland's three from five matches.

The Soviet Union also played their second match in Group Three and their second victory (both in home matches) took them into the lead. Greece have three points from three matches played, Finland two from three matches played and Austria one from two matches played. Most of the familiars were in the Soviet line-up. The Grand Master of European football, Yev Yashin, in goal; Chesternev and the tough Khurtsilava in defence; Sabo and Voronin, industrious and elegant respectively, in midfield; Chislenko on the right wing—scorer, as he so often is, of one of the goals. Banichevski was back again, twin-striker with Streltsov who appears completely restored to favour with eight consecutive appearances to his credit. Banichevski, by comparison, had missed the five previous international matches. He scored twice and Sabo, from the penalty spot, completed the scorers' list. All four goals curiously were scored in the second half. This was also the third match in succession in which the Soviet Union have scored four times—quite a change from the general run of scoring.



One of Russia's strikers, Banichevski. (A.)

Changes

Rumania, after scoring seven themselves against Cyprus in April, conceded seven a month later against the Swedes, and they made several defensive changes for their match against Italy in Bucharest—Raducanu in goal, Lupescu and Barbu in the rearguard. Their chances of a win, that might have kept some hopes of quarter-final qualification alive, had really gone however with the absence through injury of Pircalab and Dobrin. It was not however until nine minutes from time that Bertini strayed away from his post beside Guarneri (and with Picchi behind them again to make doubly sure!), ventured into the attack and scored the lone goal of the match to make Italy hot favourites for a place in the European Football Championship Quarter-Finals.

EUROPEAN CUPS ANALYSIS

Real Supreme!

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

FOR the thirteenth time, the champions—on this occasion from 32 countries, or strictly speaking National Football Associations — have embarked in pursuit of the most coveted team trophy of them all, the European Cup.

Only five clubs have, so far, scaled this pinnacle of achievement, namely Real Madrid (six times), Benfica and Inter-Milan (twice each), AC Milan and the current holders Celtic. Both Italian teams will be absent from this season's competition which nonetheless promises to be as exciting as ever, with several "dark horses" threatening to follow the footsteps of Celtic, the first side to break the Latin stranglehold on this tournament.

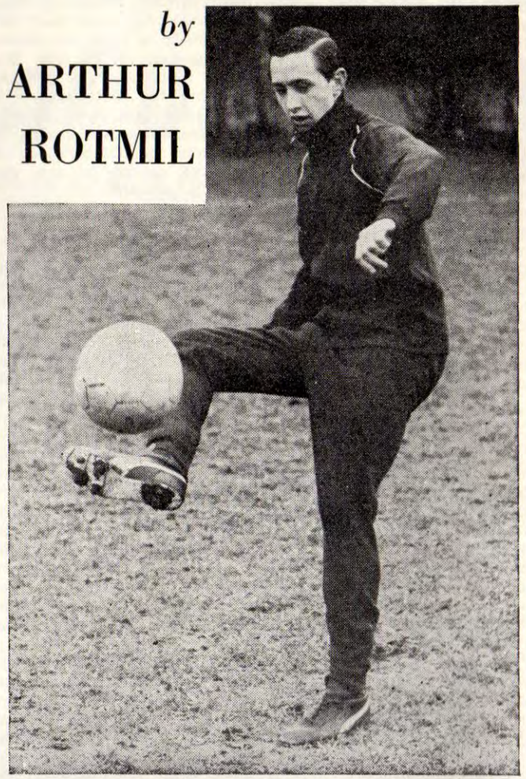
In its twelve-year existence, 137 clubs have taken part, scoring 2,366 goals in 642 matches, which attracted crowds totalling 24,719,000. The break-down, season by season was as follows:

	Games	Goals	Gates	Average
1955/56	29	127	912,000	31,450
1956/57	44	170	1,786,000	40,590
1957/58	48	189	1,790,000	37,290
1958/59	55	199	2,010,000	36,545
1959/60	55	218	2,780,000	50,545
1960/61	51	166	1,850,000	36,274
1961/62	55	221	2,315,000	45,727
1962/63	59	214	2,158,000	36,593
1963-64	61	212	2,180,000	35,737
1964/65	62	215	2,577,000	41,564
1965/66	58	224	2,113,000	36,431
1966/67	65	211	2,248,000	34,584

In an attempt to standardise the rules and streamline their principal contests, the European Football Union have introduced certain modifications of which the most important has been the seeding of the stronger teams but only for the first round, on the following basis: First, the three previous winners, Real Madrid, Benfica and Celtic. Next, former semi-finalists Manchester United, Rapid of Vienna and Vasas Budapest. Then, teams from countries who had produced finalists in the past, like West Germany, Italy, France and Yugoslavia. This concerned Eintracht Brunswick, Juventus, St. Etienne and Sarajevo. Finally, four teams were kept apart, whose countries for political reasons (!) did not wish to meet each other or at least could have encountered difficulties, namely those from Turkey, Greece, Albania and Cyprus. Another new rule—copied from the Cup Winners' Cup—but applying only for the first two rounds, before the quarter-finals is that goals scored away from home will count double, while in the event of a tie, extra-time will be played, followed if necessary by a toss-up, thus dispensing with any play-offs.

But even this new method of seeding has left the organising committee open to criticism, for while Russia's champions Dynamo Kiev are asked to meet Celtic and Ajax Amsterdam have been paired with Real Madrid, in the first round, the winner of Jeunesse Esch (Luxembourg) v. Valur (Iceland) will advance into round two! The Dynamo-Celtic clash will revive memories of their meeting in the Cup Winners' Cup some 18 months ago, when the Scots triumphed on a 4-1 aggregate, though it must be remembered that the tie was played in January—Russia's mid-winter break — and in fact, Dynamo were forced to arrange the home leg at Tbilissi (Georgia) as their own pitch was under 3 ft. of snow! Both sides are considerably stronger now. Dynamo, who are not only champions but their country's Cup-holders as well, have several experienced internationals, four of whom are currently first choices, like defender Sosnikhin, midfield linkmen Sabo and Medvid (the latter scored the second goal in Russia's 2-0 win over Scotland, at Hampden Park in May), but above all the current darling of the Russian fans, 21-year-old Anatoli Byshevetz who scored a goal in each of Russia's recent three internationals v. Mexico, France and Austria.

A real crowd-puller which could go either way should prove the meeting between Ajax Amsterdam, who became the talk of Europe following their sensational 7-3 aggregate victory over Liverpool, last year, and the only "ever presents" of this competition, Real Madrid. Ajax can play fast and attacking football and the Spaniards' defence will have to be at its best to contain such fine wingers as Jackie Swart and Piet Keizer, but particularly Holland's new goal-scoring ace Johann Cruyff and the other dangerous marksman Klaas Nuninga. Another evenly balanced tie is that concerning two "debutants" in this tournament, Botev Plovdiv of Bulgaria and Rapid Bucharest (Rumania).



Johann Cruyff, respected in this country for his goals against Liverpool for Ajax in the European Cup. (M.I.)

The most decisive wins can be expected from such giants as Benfica who should have no problems against Glentoran (N. Ireland), Manchester United certain to annihilate Floriana (Malta) whom Ipswich by the way trounced by 10-0, at home, in 1962, Vasas Budapest odds-on favourites v. Dundalk (Eire) and Juventus whose super-defence should prove too much for Olympiakos of Greece. Two further newcomers to this contest should also enjoy easy passages like West Germany's Eintracht Brunswick v. Dynamo Tirana (Albania) and Sarajevo (Yugoslavia) against Olympiakos of Cyprus. Such seasoned campaigners as Anderlecht making their eighth appearance, must not under-rate East Germany's Karlmarxstadt and this advice should be extended to Górnik (Poland) with six appearances to their credit, meeting Djurgaarden of Sweden and Rapid Vienna also taking part for the sixth time and paired with Besiktas of Turkey.

In the remaining ties St. Etienne of France should dismiss Kuopion Palloseura (Finland), Sparta Prague will most likely dispose of Skeid Oslo (Norway), Jeunesse Esch (Luxembourg), appearing for the fifth time, must be rated stronger than Valur (Iceland) and Switzerland's FC Basle are favourites v. Hvidovre (Denmark).

Based on results since this competition began in 1955, this table reflects the performances of Europe's leading clubs:

MERIT TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F A	Pts
Real Madrid	**79**	**52**	**9**	**18**	**218–94**	**113**
Benfica	44	26	8	10	126–57	60
Inter-Milan	32	20	7	5	52–20	47
Dukla Prague	37	19	8	10	67–49	46
AC Milan	33	19	4	10	95–52	42
Manchester United	24	16	3	5	66–32	35
Glasgow Rangers	31	17	1	13	59–64	35
Stade Reims	24	14	3	7	63–30	31
CSKA Sophia	32	12	7	13	59–56	31
Barcelona	18	11	3	4	45–22	25
Partizan Belgrade	25	10	3	12	47–42	23
Gornik Zabrze	19	10	1	8	31–25	21
Rapid Vienna	23	10	1	12	39–40	21
Vasas Budapest	19	8	4	7	41–25	20
Standard Liege	16	10	0	6	30–21	20
Anderlecht	26	8	4	14	50–59	20

TO refresh the reader's memory and help those who like to keep records, I present the details of all twelve European Cup Finals as follows:

1955-6

Real Madrid 4
Marquitos (67)
Di Stefano (14), Rial 2 (30, 79)
Stade de Reims (France) 3
Leblond (6), Tremplin (10), Hidalgo (62)
June 12. Paris. Att. 40,000.
Real: Alonso; Atienza, Marquitos, Lesmes; Muñoz, Zarraga; Joséito, Marçal, Di Stefano, Rial, Gento.—Manager: Villalonga.
Reims: Jacquet; Zimny, Jonquet, Giraudo; Leblond, Siatka; Hildalgo, Glovacki, Kopa, Bliard, Tremplin.—Manager: Batteux.

1956-7

Real Madrid 2
Di Stefano (70 pen.), Gento (76)
Fiorentina 0
May 30. Madrid. Att. 125,000.
Real: Alonso; Torres, Marquitos, Lesmes; Muñoz, Zarraga; Kopa, Mateos, Di Stefano, Rial, Gento.—Manager: Villalonga.
Fiorentina: Sarti; Magnini, Orzan, Cervato; Scaramucci, Segato; Julinho, Montuori, Virgili, Gratton, Bizzari.—Manager: Bernardini.

1957-8

Real Madrid 3
Di Stefano (74), Rial (79), Gento (107)
AC Milan 2
Schiaffino (60), Grillo (78)
(after extra time)
May 29. Brussels. Att. 70,000.
Real: Alonso; Atienza, Santamaria, Lesmes; Santisteban, Zarraga; Kopa, Joséito, Di Stefano, Rial, Gento. Manager: Carniglia.
AC Milan: Soldan; Fontana, Maldini, Beraldo; Bergamaschi, Radice; Danova, Liedholm, Schiaffino, Grillo, Cucchiaroni.—Manager: Viani.

1958-9

Real Madrid 2
Mateos (2), Di Stefano (47)
Stade de Reims 0
June 3. Stuttgart. Att. 70,000.
Real: Dominguez; Marquitos, Santamaria, Zarraga; Santisteban, Ruiz; Kopa, Mateos, Di Stefano, Rial, Gento.—Manager: Carniglia.
Reims: Colonna; Rodzik, Jonquet, Giraudo; Penverne, Leblond; Lamartine, Bliard, Fontaine, Piantoni, Vincent.—Manager: Batteux.

1959-60

Real Madrid 7
Di Stefano 3 (27, 30, 75), Puskas 4 (45, 56, 60, 71)
Eintracht Frankfurt 3
Kress (10), Stein 2 (72, 74)
May 18. Glasgow. Att. 128,000.
Real: Dominguez; Marquitos, Santamaria, Pachin; Zarraga, Vidal; Canario, Del Sol, Di Stefano, Puskas, Gento.—Manager: Muñoz.
Eintracht: Loy; Lutz, Eigenbrodt, Höfer; Weilbächer, Stinka; Kress, Lindner, Stein, Pfaff, Meier.—Manager: Oswald.

1960-1

Benfica 3
Aguas (30), Ramallets o.g. (32), Coluna (55)
Barcelona 2
Kocsis (20), Czibor (75)
May 31. Berne. Att. 30,000.
Benfica: Costa Perreira; Joao, Germano, Angelo; Neto, Cruz; Augusto, Santana, Aguas, Coluna, Cavem.—Manager: Guttmann.
Barcelona: Ramallets; Foncho, Gensana, Gracia; Verges, Garay; Kubala, Kocsis, Evaristo, Suarez, Czibor.—Manager: Orizaola.

1961-2

Benfica 5
Aguas (25), Cavem (34), Coluna (51), Eusebio 2 (65, 68)
Real Madrid 3
Puskas 3 (17, 23, 38)
May 2. Amsterdam. Att. 65,000.
Benfica: Costa Perreira; Joao, Germano, Angelo; Cavem, Cruz; Augusto, Eusebio, Aguas, Coluna, Simoes.—Manager: Guttmann.
Real: Araquistain; Cassado, Santamaria, Miera; Felo, Pachin; Tejada, Del Sol, Di Stefano, Puskas, Gento.—Manager: Muñoz.

1962-3

AC Milan 2
Altafini 2 (58, 70)
Benfica 1
Eusebio (19)
May 22. Wembley. Att. 45,000.
AC Milan: Ghezzi; David, Maldini, Trebbi; Benitez, Trapattoni; Pivatelli, Sani, Altafini, Rivera, Mora.—Manager: Rocco.
Benfica: Costa Perreira; Cavem, Humberto, Raul, Cruz; Santana, Coluna; Augusto, Torres, Eusebio, Simoes.—Manager: Riera.

1963-4

Inter-Milan 3
Mazzola 2 (43, 76), Milani (61)
Real Madrid 1
Felo (70)
May 27. Vienna. Att. 75,000.
Inter: Sarti; Burgnich, Guarneri, Facchetti; Tagnin, Picchi; Jair, Mazzola, Milani, Suarez, Corso. — Manager: Herrera.
Real: Vicente; Isidro, Santamaria, Pachin; Zoco, Muller; Amancio, Felo, Di Stefano, Puskas, Gento.—Manager: Muñoz.

1964-5

Inter-Milan 1
Jair (42)
Benfica 0
May 27. Milan. Att. 65,000.
Inter: Sarti; Burgnich, Guarneri, Facchetti; Bedin, Picchi; Jair, Mazzola, Peiró, Suarez, Corso. — Manager: Herrera.
Benfica: Costa Perreira; Cavem, Germano, Raul, Cruz; Neto, Coluna; Augusto, Torres, Eusebio, Simoes.—Manager: Schwartz.

1965-6

Real Madrid 2
Amancio (70), Serena (75)
Partizan Belgrade 1
Vasovic (55)
May 11. Brussels. Att. 60,000.
Real: Araquistain; Pachin, De Felipe, Zoco, Sanchis; Pirri, Velazquez; Serena, Amancio, Grosso, Gento.—Manager: Muñoz.
Partizan: Soskic; Jusufi, Rasovic, Vasovic, Mihajlovic; Becejac, Kovacevic; Bajic, Hasanagic, Galic, Pirmajer.—Manager: Gegic.

1966-7

Glasgow Celtic 2
Gemmell (63), Chalmers (85)
Inter-Milan 1
Mazzola (8 pen.)
May 25. Lisbon. Att. 60,000.
Celtic: Simpson; Craig, McNeill, Clark, Gemmell; Murdoch, Auld; Johnstone, Wallace, Chalmers, Lennox.—Manager: Stein.
Inter: Sarti; Burgnich, Guarneri, Picchi, Facchetti; Bedin, Bicicli; Domenghini, Mazzola, Cappellini, Corso.—Manager: Herrera.

THE European Cup-Winners' Cup was conceived at a meeting of EUFA on February 13, 1960, in Vienna. It was felt at the time, that there was room for expansion of international contests, following the highly successful example of the Champions' Cup.

At first, some two-thirds of the affiliated FA's have snubbed the new idea and only 10 teams took part, requiring barely 18 games which were watched by nearly 300,000 fans, average 16,110. But the participants have more than doubled and the crowds steadily increased as this table shows:

	Teams	Games	Goals	Gates
1960/61	10	18	60	290,000
1961/62	24	44	174	650,000
1962/63	24	48	169	1,100,000
1963/64	29	62	202	1,300,000
1964/65	30	61	163	1,100,000
1965/66	31	59	188	1,400,000
1966/67	32	61	170	1,500,000

Altogether, in the seven competitions, 353 matches were played, producing 1,126 goals, watched by a total of 7,340,000 spectators. Previous winners were as follows: Fiorentina (1961); Atletico Madrid (1962); Tottenham Hotspur (1963); Sporting Lisbon (1964); West Ham Utd. (1965); Borussia Dortmund (1966); Bayern Munich (1967).

The current tournament has at last been brought in line with the Champions' Cup, but the rule whereby away goals count double—already in operation for the past two season—will now apply only to the first two rounds. Also, for the first time, ten teams were seeded namely: Bayern Munich (the holders), Spurs, Valencia, AC Milan, Vasas Györ, Lyon, Standard Liege, Vitoria Setubal, Aberdeen and Hamburger SV.

Clearly, the favourites must be the first four named, plus Torpedo Moscow and it would indeed be a major surprise if the winners did not emerge from this quintet. The holders, Bayern should have no difficulty in dismissing their Greek opponents, but Tottenham have an infinitely tougher assignment against one of Yugoslavia's most famous sides Hajduk of Split, who only finished seventh in their League and are making their debut in this competition but could, traditionally, prove quite a handful at home. Moscow Torpedo too, will not find their East German adversaries from Motor Zwickau an easy nut to crack, but AC Milan must be rated favourites against the Bulgarian Cup-holders, while Valencia have plenty of European experience—having won the Fairs' Cup twice—and should be too strong for Belfast Crusaders. Incidentally, the Russian, Italian and Spanish entrants are new to this tournament and so are Aberdeen who will certainly eliminate KR.

Other easy ties are in store for last season's semi-finalists Standard Liege who oppose Altay Izmir (Turkey), Vasas Györ v. Apollon (Cyprus), Olympique Lyon facing Aris Bonneweg (Luxembourg), Hamburger SV against Danish Second Division side Randers Freja and Holland's NAC Breda v. Hibernians of Malta. One of Poland's finest pre-war clubs, Wisla (Cracov) should also progress at the expense of H.I.K. Helsinki (Finland) and so should Portugal's Vitoria de Setubal who are meeting Fredrikstad of Norway. In the remaining ties, Cardiff City making their third bid in this tournament, must be favoured against Shamrock Rovers (also for the third time here), while the Czech revelation Spartak of Trnava ought to get the better of Lausanne (Swiss), and so should FK Austria, who face Steaua Bucharest of Rumania.

IRISH NEWS by COLIN McALPIN

SPLENDID DRAW FOR GLENTORAN

WHILE touring the United States as one of the competitors in the USSA League in July, Glentoran, Irish League champions, heard the fantastic news that they had been drawn against crack Portuguese side Benfica in the Preliminary Round of the European Cup—and the announcement from Geneva simply confirmed that the Glens are the money-making, headline-hitting, glamour club of the Irish League.

What a year it's been for the club from the heart of Belfast's dockland! Last season, their most successful ever, they walked off with the Ulster Cup, Gold Cup, City Cup and Irish League, were beaten in the final of the Irish Cup, reached the semi-final of the County Antrim Shield and held the mighty Glasgow Rangers to a draw in the first-leg tie of a European Cup-Winners' Cup pairing before a crowd of 36,000. On top of their domestic successes came the recent 12-match visit to America where they represented the automobile city of Detroit and became the rave team of the competition with results assuring them of an overwhelming financial success.

Non-Stop

And now, as the Glens go into their second year of what has been virtually non-stop football (after all but a few weeks' rest between seasons and that energy-sapping but never-to-be-forgotten tour), comes this draw; a draw that will be an all-ticket affair and almost certainly a record attendance match.

Benfica, the Portuguese champions and former holders of this trophy on two occasions (they were also beaten finalists once), are no strangers to Belfast for on a rain-soaked September night in 1963 they were held to a thrilling and much talked-about draw (3-3) by Distillery—a Distillery which included the ageing but still brilliant English international Tommy Finney, who had been signed for the one night by the then Distillery manager, George Eastham (now boss of Ards).

When they were told about the draw the Glentoran players and officials were cock-a-hoop. "This is fantastic, wonderful news," said a beaming chairman Harry McNeely. "Distillery had a wonderful turn-out for their match with Benfica under atrocious weather conditions and there is no doubt we are on a winner here."

Other reported comments from players and official included:

"You could not ask for a better draw than this. We are really flying this year. We have had fantastic luck in these European tournaments and this will certainly be an all-ticket match," —Jack Dornan, vice-chairman.

"Oh, beautiful—wonderful—a cracker! Our matches against Bangu, Cagliari of Sardinia and Cerro of Montevideo in this USA series will provide us with excellent background. What a night it should be at the Oval." —John Colrain, player-coach.

"This is certainly something, I just could not believe we could have such a lucky draw." —Walter Bruce, Ulster Footballer of the Year.

"Fantastic, this will have to be an all-ticket affair and it should establish the crowd record at the Oval."—Billy Ferguson, Glentoran secretary.

Stars

And so it should, for the Portuguese club has in its line-up, of course, World Cup star Eusebio as well as that other star Torres—so for those top-of-the-world Glens the golden bubble seems to be as solid as ever. Everything the East End club does turns to gold—the home season (now a few weeks old) should prove as successful as last season was provided, and this is the big danger for a team of part-timers, the pace they have been living at these past months does not prove too much. If the Glens crack now then Irish football will have lost a wonderful opportunity of gaining even more international prestige.

But while the Glens—confident of being able to beat the world—are looking forward to their draw, Ulster's other European representative club—Crusaders—must be viewing their Cup-Winners' Cup draw against Valencia of Spain with mixed feelings.

When he heard the news of the draw and the fact that the first-leg tie is to be played in Spain, Crues' manager Ted Smyth—who guided them to their first-ever Irish Cup win in his first term as boss—had these guarded words to say: "It could have been worse. This is not a bad draw."

Crusaders' chairman, Tommy Moorhead, added: "This could be well worth while. It should give our players valuable experience."

For the little club from the Shore Road this will be their first European venture and, naturally, they are a bit overawed by it all. With plenty of heart and enthusiasm—but not a brilliant team overall—they are hoping to hold the Spaniards to as close a first-leg score as they can and then go all out for a dramatic kill in the return game in Belfast.

For that all-important first game (and the Shore Road side have agreed to play their ties on September 27 and October 11) Smyth, a man who knows his football inside out, will look to his defence to keep the unfashionable little side in with a chance—but that will not rule out attacking soccer altogether.

Explained Smyth: "We will have to evolve a defensive plan for the visit to Spain, but that does not mean that we shall forget about attacking. A way will have to be found down the wings to get around the Valencia defence."

So the Crues are set for a bit of history-making and their first experience of the glamour (and hard work) of European football. It's a rough draw to be kicking off with but the Crues are determined not to let Irish soccer down and to follow the great international trail blazed by cross-city rivals Glentoran.

Towards the end of July a heck of a row blasted through Derry City with dark hints of intrigue and manœuvres to oust manager Willie Ross being bandied about freely by officials and supporters.

Bad treatment

The storm broke on July 22 when former director, Brian Desmond (he resigned over what he considered bad treatment of Derry by the IFA over the banning of Brandywell Road for European competitions), issued a statement condemning what he described as "manœuvres going on to oust Willie Ross as manager of the club".

The story really started some weeks before when Ross, who has guided the Londonderry outfit to their greatest successes in recent years, was offered a position with the club's Development Corporation which would leave the way clear for the appointment of a player-manager. Ross was hesitant about taking up the offer and the matter remained in the air until the statements hit the headlines.

Statement

Mr. Desmond came out with a strongly worded statement which left nobody in any doubt that the directors were on the verge of sacking Ross outright: "Nobody should be deceived about what the position really is. The majority of the directors want rid of Mr. Ross, but considering the club's record since he took over seven years ago they could give no valid reason for dispensing with his services. But then somebody thought up the bright idea of disguising his dismissal as manager by offering him a job with the Development organisation. It is now clear that if he does accept it the directors, or at least a majority of them, have decided to dismiss him."

Alleging that there was too much intrigue in the Derry City club, Mr. Desmond went on to ask those against Ross to come into the open and state their exact objections.

The club's vice-chairman, Stephen Morgan, commented: "I agree that the position is a most unhappy one and cannot be allowed to go on like this."

Officials were meeting to discuss the position and as I write their deliberations are not known.

Across the way from trouble-torn Derry City, Coleraine are embarking on an ambitious scheme to set the club in the forefront of Irish League football—with a large-scale social development that began some time ago as a £30,000 dream and is now taking shape in the form of a two-storey building with glass windows, restaurant and bars.

Go-ahead chairman Jack Doherty had this to say about the drive to make Coleraine the mecca for Northern football followers: "With the coming of the New University of Ulster to this area the population of Coleraine will double over the next eight years. This is a tremendous growth that we could not just sit back and ignore. Football must modernise to meet this challenge and that's what we intend to do.

"When the plan is finished there will be seating accommodation, with a perfect view of the pitch, for 600 people and the balcony overhang will provide covered shelter for the terracing fans. We want to make it possible—with this restaurant—for visiting teams and our own players to have a meal and relax and not leave the Showgrounds."

In addition to the dressing rooms, bars, etc., there will be squash courts, indoor bowling mats and, for the summer months, even a putting green. Also there is the possibility of erecting outdoor bowling bays.

Objections

On the playing side there are plans for full-time professionalism so that Coleraine can really step into the 1970s with ultra-modern soccer. They are looking for an admin-manager (a full-time job) to look after the running of the social side of the club and to assist in the general work of the teams and recently, as a step towards their ultimate aims, the club appointed former Dundee United and Celtic forward Bobby Carroll with special coaching duties.

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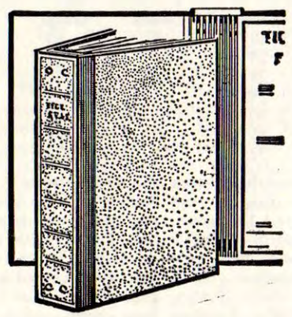

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AMALGAMATION IS A U.S. MUST says BRIAN GLANVILLE

● *Continued from page 11*

players, for the most part. He also has a couple of West Indians, one of whom, the left-winger, Warren Archibald, has pace, control, courage, and not an ounce of football intelligence. The latest signing was George Kirby — a centre-forward on Walsall's free transfer list. But what can NPSL clubs do when they are unable to affiliate to FIFA, and any player who joins them must risk his future in the game?

Matches in both leagues suffered from the appalling heat; sometimes they were played in temperatures of 90 degrees. Manlio Scopigno, the manager of Cagliari, complained forcefully to me about such impositions. He, indeed, was so depressed and disgusted by conditions in the league and in Chicago, where his team were playing, that he fell foul of his directors and was sacked; a sad conclusion to a fine season.

Lamar Hunt, the owner of the Dallas Tornado club, wants the season to last eight months instead of five, but this raises not only the problem of the hot summer but that of the cold winter—and the clash with that enormously successful mastodon, American football. It is Hunt, too, who has been one of the principal exponents of the policy of rigorously limiting transfer fees. He would like to have pegged them to an incredibly low $100,000 TOTAL; as it is they've been pegged to $200,000—which condemns cities like New York to another wasted summer of watching the second best (if that).

Frantic

I haven't touched at all on the greatest problem of all; that soccer remains an un-American activity, a truth to which the present frantic attempt to promote it merely bears witness. There is something in the game deeply foreign to the American temperament and fantasy; though a spectacular increase in the amount of soccer played in the schools may bring changes.

Like patriotism, however, school soccer is not enough. Young players, in and out of New York, must have star teams, star players, to emulate; and $200,000 a club just won't buy them.

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Televised final was a big flop

Eire Round-up
by TOM MULDOWNEY

EIRE'S energetic legislators are hoping that the new season will be more rewarding than was the old. Now an unhappy memory.

A loss of £4,000 was reported at the annual general meeting; made up almost entirely by a deficit of approximately £3,000 on international games and a £1,000 drop in cup-final takings.

A mere 13,000 watched the all Dublin decider between Shamrock Rovers, who retained the trophy, and St. Patricks, as against the 27,000 of the previous year, when Limerick supplied the opposition.

Officialdom took a calculated risk when they permitted the final to be televised. It was a generous, popular decision. Welcome everywhere; but especially in hospitals and outside the metropolis. It affected the attendance and is not likely to be repeated.

The red line scarred representative returns at all levels, including amateur internationals. All expensive undertakings that require full public support in order to survive. Results were equally disappointing. Irish teams failed with monotonous regularity. Defeat depresses. And makes it difficult to entice attractive visitors to Dublin.

The Eire FA are fortunate in having as Secretary Joe Wickham, the longest serving Secretary in Europe. Such is his stature among Europe's élite that he seldom fails to complete his bookings.

Desired

The approach to these international matches and inter-League games, for that matter, leaves a lot to be desired. Some improvement could be made in this direction. And should be made. But it would not solve the real problems. Selectors' scope is restricted. Always they must make do with very limited resources. It's a situation to be lived with. Nobody knows this better than the Selectors.

The majority of League of Ireland clubs spent the winter trying to keep the wolf from the door. It was a cashless campaign. With Shamrock Rovers, Dundalk, Bohemians and Sligo Rovers possible exceptions. Sligo, however, groaned under the weight of an enormous wage-bill. Their gallant gamble of fielding more full-time professionals than any other club for many years, earned them the admiration of all football folk. For all the effort, cash and conquest eluded them, and in the end it was count your coppers, in the absence of blessings.

Clubs are desperate to win back the missing masses. Thoughts are turning to Saturday soccer. Even Friday night floodlight football is contemplated as part of a regular programme. In the old days, before the advent of the five-day week, Bohemians and Shelbourne received good Saturday support. And some years ago, during that terrible English winter, several top clubs came over and brought bumper "gates" to Irish grounds, on Saturdays.

Playing three games on a Sunday in Dublin has proved a financial failure. Soccer suicide, say scribes. How right they are. Now, at last, the clubs are seeing sense. The least attractive of Sundays three, could do no worse on Saturday or Friday night. Dublin still boasts a hard core of football followers who, given the chance, will watch two games each week-end. A note of warning, though. Night soccer during early autumn or spring is worth a trial. Come winter; forget about it.

Shamrock Rovers director, Mrs. Mary Cunningham, wife of Chairman Joe Cunningham, returned from Geneva with the good news that the famous "Hoops" had drawn Cardiff City in the first round of the European Cup-Winners' Cup competition. Her happy return recalls another occasion when she brought back tidings of great joy. Tidings that shook the soccer headquarters in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. With her came Jock Doods, famous Scottish international of Blackpool. Those were the "good, bad old days" when Eire's retain-transfer list was not recognised by the home associations. Big Jock came through the "open" door to play for Shamrocks. He was about the last to do so. The door was closed soon afterwards.

Pioneered

Cardiff is Rovers' first cross-channel draw since 1958 when they pioneered Eire's European entry. And Rovers held their own against mighty Manchester United until part-time stamina was steam-rolled by Busby's full grown babes. France's Nice nudged them out in 1960 but they fell badly to Botev Plovdiv of Bulgaria, 5-0, two years later.

In the 1963 Fairs', Shamrocks shone against Valencia, going out by a single score Dalymount defeat. It was felt then that the breakthrough was around the corner. Rapid of Vienna put paid to that thought with a 5-0 shattering. But that was to be the last real failure.

They went out to Real Zaragosa, Fairs' 1965 winners, after holding them to a first game draw. Then last term, Spora of Luxembourg, not the strongest of foes, were trounced 8-2 and Shamrocks were over the preliminaries for the first time. Although joy was short lived their second round defeat was with honour. Out to Bayern Munich, who went on to beat Glasgow Rangers in the final.

Excursions

After their Munich magnificence Shamrocks sank. Dundalk took over the League of Ireland top spot with the "Hoops" winning the Cup to continue their European excursions.

Player-wise Rovers never had it so good. Only cause for concern is the possibility of Paddy Mulligan and Mick Kerins returning to America. They toured with Shamrocks in the Summer League there and impressed the Boston big-wigs. Even Frank O'Neill, who joined "Hoops" from Arsenal, said on television that he would consider the right offer. Home support will be keeping their fingers crossed. The loss of these players would greatly reduce Rovers' chances of staying at the top.

Another Rover destined for greatness is Mick Leech. The former Ormue boy was a success from the moment he pulled a "hoop" over his head. And others, who play no small part in the continued success of Shamrocks, are John Keogh; Ronnie Nolan, the old-young war-horse, who has played so many great games for his club; Johnny Fullam, former Deepdale defender who left Preston for League of Ireland football when he was holding his own in the Eire international team, as did Frank O'Neill; and up front leads Bobby Gilbert, former Shelbourne and Derry City centre-forward, and at his right hand Billy Dixon.

Not least is player-coach Liam Tuohy. The East Wall boy who has won every honour in the game since leaving the wide open spaces of Fairview Park for Milltown. And now in the twilight of a great career sits in that hallowed hot seat of Eire football. And is loving it.

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Soccer now demands condition above all...

. . . says Turkish team boss Andran Suvari in an interview with Eric Batty

TEN years ago Turkish football was isolated, but greater participation in the big international competitions, and a sprinkling of foreign players and coaches is slowly improving the overall standard. We have many problems to overcome, and the biggest is perhaps the comparatively low standard of living. This is important because nowadays physical condition is probably the biggest single factor in the game.

Numbers on the backs of players' shirts mean nothing nowadays and the most successful teams are those whose players have the highest work-rate. Of course technique and intelligence play a vital role, too, but 80% of the game hinges on condition. Attacking and defending in turn for an hour and a half makes tremendous demands on the players' stamina.

Although we try to prepare our players by modern methods there is a physical barrier beyond which we cannot push the players. In other countries with higher standards of living this problem is not so acute, but in Turkey the majority of the players cannot afford to eat as well as they should. For this reason I work very closely with the club doctor as manager of Goeztepe (Izmir) and with the national team in training or on tour I always prefer to have a doctor on hand.

EXCESSIVE

This is a problem which must be overcome if we are to progress, for we cannot make excessive demands on the players. They cannot give more than they have to give.

There is a secondary problem here, too, for generally the people who run the clubs are amateurs. The coaches and the players are all professionals, comparatively poorly paid, but professionals nonetheless, and they are often dictated to by the whims of amateurs.

In the old days training was very haphazard and largely consisted of individual training with the ball. Now we have accepted the principle that football is a team game, and training must be undertaken in groups. Of course we recognise that we must have highly skilled individuals if our game is to achieve a high standard but the abilities of the individuals must be integrated into the team.

Understanding the needs of modern football is most important and for this reason we include in our weekly programme a lecture on the theory of the game. With younger players it is not too difficult to make players understand that they must use their skill and energy for the team, but after around 25 years of age it becomes increasingly difficult. High School students and University men are easier to coach, but unfortunately the better educated young men prefer more lucrative careers.

Since my retirement my ideas on the game have changed considerably as a result of experiences abroad. UEFA Conferences in East Germany and Turkey have helped develop ideas, and in addition I have attended courses at Lilleshall in 1959 and 1962. Between these courses I lived for three years in Huddersfield, within easy reach of Manchester United. Sheffield United, and Leeds.

One of the things which impressed me most about football in England was the very high standard of play amongst schoolboys. This is a field in which we must devote a great deal of hard work in Turkey. Boys do play at school in Turkey but the standard is not good. Players acquire their basic technique during their early years and if they are not properly coached they develop bad habits. Our biggest problem revolves around our lack of good coaches, and I would like to see the FA develop a sports school here in Turkey. If we could invite large groups of teachers to study at the school every year, they could pass on to our youngsters what they have learned.

My approach to group coaching is simple. The aim is to use the abilities of the players in basic moves, and to this end we first explain to the players what is involved and if possible illustrate the points with shots from films.

After ensuring in this way that each player understands what is expected from him we then go on to the training area and set up the move in conditions which closely resemble match play. Then we practise, practise, practise.

REALISTIC

Small sided games also help, if the coach stresses that he wants to see the team's personal pattern of play come out in the games, and this is even more realistic practise because the competitive element is there.

As far as is practically possible we aim to do all our training with the ball, even sprinting, and our work to build up stamina. The problem here is to get the organs in the player's body—the heart, the lungs, etc. —accustomed to strain and the change of pace.

Another important point is to vary the training as much as possible. If we draw up a fixed training routine for each day of the week, the players can quite easily become bored. Before they arrive at the training ground they will get to know exactly what they are going to do, and inevitably they will begin to come in the wrong frame of mind.

REPETITION

If the players can get bored with repetition, so, too, can the public and this I believe is a vital point for the game. If we continue to present the current defensive game the public will tire of the game. To keep the public interested we must score goals—the more the better—and we must find some way of increasing the number of goals.

I'm not keen on changing the laws of the game but if we cannot improve the situation by other means, we will have to amend the laws. Perhaps the American idea to give extra points for goals might help, but if we cannot encourage teams to go for goals, we must make it easier to score.

UPS AND DOWNS IN THE "GATES"

★

Radoslav Becejac was recently transferred from Partizan to Olimpija for £30,000 in Yugoslavia. See last story: Yugoslavia. (O.)

★

ITALY

ATTENDANCES dropped slightly during 1966–67 because, said the critics, the public was disappointed with Italy's World Cup showing. Several clubs, including lowly Lanerossi Vicenza, improved on their figures for the previous season, however, and Naples topped the gate-pullers lists with a total of 1,288,000. Inter were second (773,000) and Roma third with 601,000, while new champions Juventus attracted the sixth highest gates totalling 434,000. Naples' extraordinary support was almost entirely due to their prodigious effort — selling more than 60,000 season tickets.

Backed by the Government and the International Olympic Committee which controls all sports, the Football Association are still battling to put the League clubs' finances in order. At the last count AS Roma were still deep in debt — down from £1 million to £760,000 (1,300,000,000 lire). Roma have almost been overhauled by Varese, who have just been promoted to the top flight. Signing players to take the club up was responsible for most of the deficit of £720,000.

In spite of the deficits and government pressure more than £3½ million changed hands during the customary transfer scramble in July. For those who didn't get all the players they need there will be another brief "season" in November. Inter were the biggest spenders, laying out more than £800,000 for nine new men, including Nielsen (Bologna), the Danish international centre-forward. Of Inter's big names, Guarneri, Picchi and Jair have all been transferred.

Having won his first *scudetto* Heriberto Herrera, manager of Juventus, declared himself "satisfied" with his team in spite of the club's inability to strengthen their attack. In particular the Zebras are reckoned to need a new winger, and though Torino were approached for the transfer of Meroni, the deal fell through. The figure widely circulated was £700,000!

AUSTRIA

AS part of a big new re-shuffle the Oesterreicher Fussball Bund has decided to enlarge the First Division from 14 to 16 clubs. Until now it was felt that provincial clubs promoted from West and Central Sections of Division II couldn't hold their own, but the success of Wacker Innsbruck — pipped for the title on goal average — has changed this assessment. Now it is the Viennese clubs who are struggling, against apathy in the capital.

At the end of next season two clubs will be relegated, and all three Division II champions will be promoted. The following season it will be again two down and three up, and thereafter three up and three down.

For 1967–68 the OFB have adopted FIFA's substitute recommendation and unlike most countries will allow two substitutes per team. In Austrian circles the substitute is no novelty, though only one per game has been the general rule over the years.

In future players called up for duty with the national team will be paid a match fee and bonus to replace the meagre daily spending allowance paid until now. Henceforth the standard rate will be £25 appearance money, plus bonuses: £15 a man for a draw, and £25 for a win.

Admira-Energie, formed three years ago with the backing of the Electrical Industry, recently obtained an option on the services of Czech coach Anton Malatinsky, who has made a big hit with Czech Cup-winners Spartak Trnava.

A month later the club were told Malatinsky had not received approval of the Czech FA and would not be coming. Apparently the Czechs consider that five of their coaches propping up the Austrian game is enough!

HOLLAND

MORE and more foreign players and coaches are being engaged by the top Dutch clubs. PSV Eindhoven, still eager to oust the big clubs of Rotterdam and Amsterdam, have engaged Yugoslav coach Milan Nikolic and the Danish international inside-forward Bengt Schmid-Hansen (from Horsens FK), and DWS Amsterdam have obtained the services of a Hungarian coach, Laszlo Zalai, formerly with Division II Fortuna. The biggest signing, however, was made by Fejenoord, who recently released their Swedish inside-forward Harry Bild, and signed in his stead the Yugoslav star Samardzic.

Meanwhile Cup and League double winners Ajax-Amsterdam are well content with their squad and have made no big signings. Scoring 122 goals in the championship and beating NAC Breda 2-1 in the Cup Final, Ajax have little need of reinforcements. Playing 4-2-4, their front players took three of the top four places in the goalscorers list in the 1966–67 campaign: Cruyff 32, Swart 24, and Nuninga 23, and the left-winger Keizer hit 11.

Down from the Ere-Divisie (once more) go Elinkwijk and Willen II (Tilburg) to be replaced by Volendam and NEC, but the big three remain firm favourites for the new season: Ajax, Fejenoord and Sparta ... in that order.

AROUND THE WORLD STORIES

YUGOSLAVIA

NEW champions Sarajevo FC celebrated their 20th anniversary with their first title and following the success of Vojvodina in 1965–66 it seems that the domination of the Belgrade-Zagreb clubs has finally been ended.

Down from the top class go Sutjeska and Celik who were fined four points for "arranging" a game the previous season. The four points made no difference, Celik would have dropped anyway, and up in their stead come Maribor (Western champions) and a newcomer to Division I — Proleter Zrenjanin from the Eastern section.

Top goalscorer last season, Partizan's centre-forward Hasanagic hit 18 league goals and attracted many offers from foreign clubs. He turned them all down, however, to help new boss Stefan Bobek build a new team. Bobek, until recently manager of Greek Cup-winners Panathinaikos, was forced to leave Athens when the Greeks refused to renew his work permit, and he had been expected to join Dynamo Zagreb. Dynamo are now expected to sign their former centre-half, Ivica Horvath, who has spent several years in West Germany.

The Yugoslav FA thought they had settled most of their troubles with the new regulations governing transfers abroad and the introduction of professionalism but now a new headache has arisen. Internal transfers have increased alarmingly with unknown Olimpija setting a new record fee of 60 million dinars (£30,000) for Partizan's Radoslav Becejac. Another dangerous precedent was set by Dynamo Zagreb, who paid Rudolf Belin a £12,000 bonus to persuade him not to request a transfer. The big mystery is where the clubs get the money, for a year ago they were all "broke".

DRAW FOR THE 1967-68 INTER-CITIES FAIRS CUP

Malmo v. Liverpool; Lokomotiv Leipzig v. Linfield; Bologna v. Lynn; Fiorentina v. Olympique Lille; Eintracht Frankfurt v. Nottingham Forest; Hibs v. FC Porto; Royal Bruges v. Sporting Lisbon; St. Patrick's Athletic v. Girondins Bordeaux; CA Spora v. Leeds United; Wiener Sportklub v. Atletico Madrid.

Rangers v. Dynamo Dresden; Vojvodina v. Barreiro Setubal; Servette Geneva v. Munich; Atletico Bilbao v. Frem Copenhagen; DWS Amsterdam v. Dundee; Napoli v. Hanover; Zurich v. Barcelona; Royal FC Liegeois v. AS Pack Salonika; Dynamo Zagreb v. Petrolul Ploesti.

Royal Antwerp v. Goeztepe Izmir; DOS Utrecht v. Real Zaragoza; Cologne v. Slavia Prague; Dynamo Pitesti v. Ferencvaros; Partizan Belgrade v. Lokomotiv Plovdiv.

BOOK REVIEWS

by PHILIP RISING

I MUST admit that I tend to look forward to a new Brian Glanville publication with the same sort of enthusiastic relish that young children await Christmas, a trip to the seaside, or an ice-cream.

And, like Christmas, the seaside and ice-creams, they are never a disappointment. Those who are Glanville fans of old will not hesitate to add **People in Sport** (Secker & Warburg, 30s.) to their collections. I have already found it a prominent place in my new oak bookshelf of which I am very proud.

"People in Sport" is a collection of Glanville pieces that have previously appeared in a variety of publications during his most distinguished journalistic career. I can readily assure you that even if you have read some before the chance to do so again will be welcomed.

Like most, nay all, Glanville books, "People in Sport" can be read over and over again. A real library treasure and an especially fine addition to one's bookshelf ... particularly if it's oak!

I dare say that the man most likely to be delighted by Alan Ball's first autobiography, **Ball of Fire** (Pelham Books, 25s.) is Nobby Stiles.

Ball strongly defends his great pal Stiles against his adversaries and also relates his own story in detail. Ball, of course, has an interesting story to tell and a career that stretches from the time he was sent off in a schoolboy match at the age of 12 to the World Cup Final last year.

"Ball of Fire" is an appealing book without ever really being absorbing but those who enjoy the autobiographies of professional footballers will no doubt find it to their taste

* * *

The annuals have started to appear on the market. Two of the first are **Denis Law's Book of Soccer No. 2** (Pelham Books, 15s.) and **International Football Book No. 9** (Souvenir Press, 15s.).

The latter will obviously attract those whose interests in football are international. It contains over 150 illustrations and the authors include Eusebio, Alan Ball, Franz Beckenbauer, Ferenc Bene, Giacinto Facchetti, Charlie Cooke, Geoff Hurst and Jackie Charlton.

Denis Law's book is also full of pictures and includes stories by Matt Busby, George Best, Ian St. John, Billy McNeill, Phil Woosnam and Ray Wilson.

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League Details Around Europe 1966-67

Compiled by ROGER MACDONALD

COUNTRY	MATCHES	TOP THREE	POINTS	MOST WINS	FEWEST DEFEATS	MOST GOALS FOR	FEWEST GOALS AGAINST	BIGGEST SCORES	LEADING SCORERS	MOST PLAYERS USED	FEWEST PLAYERS USED	HIGHEST AVERAGE ATTENDANCES	HIGHEST SINGLE ATTENDANCES
AUSTRIA	26	**Rapid Vienna**	41	Rapid ... 20	Innsbruck ... 3	Rapid ... 72 (2.77 per match)	Innsbruck, Austria 23 (0.88)	Rapid 8, GAK 1 Wiener SK 8, Kapfen. 1 Rapid 6, Klagenfurt 0		Wacker ... 22 Wiener SK, Kapfenburg ... 21	Rapid ... 17 Innsbruck, Bregenz 18	Rapid ... 15,000 FK Austria ... 11,000 Wacker Innsb. 10,000	Austria ... 35,000
		Wacker Innsbruck	41										
		Austria FK ...	35										
BELGIUM	30	**Anderlecht**	47	Bruges ... 21	Anderlecht ... 3	Anderlecht ... 63 (2.1)	Anderlecht ... 12 (0.4)		Mulder (Anderlecht) 29 Lambert (Bruges)... 19 Van Himst (Ander.) 18	Tilleur, Malines ... 25 Daring ... 23	Anderlecht, etc. ... 19		
		Bruges	45										
		Liege FC ...	39										
BULGARIA	30	**Botev Plovdiv**	38	Botev, Slavia, Levski, Spartak Sofia ... 13	Botev ... 5	Levski ... 46 (1.54)	Botev ... 24 (0.8)		Jekov (Beroe) ... 21		Botev ... 16		
		Slavia Sofia	37										
		Levski	36										
CZECHOSLOV'KIA	26	**Sparta Prague**	39	Sparta ... 18	Sparta, Slovan Bratislava ... 5	Sparta, Trnava ... 53 (2.03)	Slovan Bratislava 17 (0.65)		Adamec (Trnava)... 21 Strunc (Dukla) ... 15 Masek (Dukla, Sp.) 14		Trnava, Kosice ... 15 Slovan Bratislava... 16	Sparta ... 22,000 Slavia ... 17,000 Trnava ... 13,000	Slavia ... 42,000 Slovan Bratis. 35,000 Sparta ... 33,000
		Slovan Bratislava...	35										
		Trnava	34										
ENGLAND	42	**Manchester United**	60	Manchester Utd. ... 24 Tottenham H. ... 24	Manchester Utd. ... 6	Manchester Utd.... 84 (2.0)	Nottingham F. ... 41 (0.97)		Davies (South'pton) 37 Hurst (W. Ham U.) 29 Greaves (Totten'm) 24	Newcastle Utd. ... 26 West Bromwich, West Ham ... 25	Tottenham H. ... 16 Nottingham F., Liverpool ... 17	Manchester U. 52,000 Liverpool ... 46,000 Everton ... 43,000	Everton ... 64,000
		Nottingham Forest	56										
		Tottenham Hotspur	56										
FRANCE	38	**St. Etienne**	54	St. Etienne ... 24	Nantes ... 5	St. Etienne ... 82 (2.15)	St. Etienne ... 37 (0.97)	St. Etienne 7, Nice 0 St. Etienne 7, Stade 1 Lille 6, Sochaux 0	Revelli (St. Etienne) 31 Lech (Lens) ... 25	Sedan, Lyon ... 22	Lille ... 16	Nantes ... 16,000 Marseille ... 15,000 St. Etienne ... 14,000	St. Etienne ... 28,000 Marseille ... 28,000 Nantes ... 24,000
		Nantes	50										
		Angers	46										
E. GERMANY	26	**Karlmarxstadt**	37	Karlmarxstadt, Loco. Leipzig ... 14	Karlmarxstadt ... 3	Wismut Aue ... 45 (1.73)	Karlmarxstadt ... 23 (0.88)	M. Zwick. 5, U. Berlin 0 Loco. S. 5, Wismut G. 0 KZ Jena 5, U. Berlin 0	Rentsch (M'r Zw.) 17 Einseidel (Aue) ... 14 Bauchspeiss (C. Lp.) 14	Dynamo Berlin, Chemie Halle, Wismut Aue ... 23	Vorwärts, Dresden 15 Karlmarxstadt ... 16	Karlmarxstadt 22,000 Dresden ... 20,000 Chemie Halle 13,000	Karlmarxstadt 45,000 Dresden ... 33,000 Vorwärts ... 30,000
		Locomotive Leipzig	30										
		Motor Zwickau ...	27										
W. GERMANY	34	**Eintr. Braunschweig**	43	Braunschweig, Munich 1860 ... 17	Braunschweig ... 8	Borussia Dortmund, Munchengladbach 70 (2.05)	Braunschweig ... 26 (0.79)	M'gladbach 11, Schalke 0 Bor. Dort. 7, Hamburg 0 Bor. Dort. 6, Cologne 1	Müller (Bay. Mun.) 28 Emmerich (B. Dort.) 28	Nuremberg ... 23 Stuttgart ... 21	Braunschweig, Duisburg ... 16	Stuttgart ... 29,000 Ein. Frankfurt 27,000 Dusseldorf ... 26,000	Stuttgart ... 68,000 Nuremberg ... 59,000 Hamburg ... 58,000
		Munich 1860	41										
		Borussia Dortmund	39										
ITALY	34	**Juventus**	49	Inter ... 19	Juventus ... 3	Inter ... 59 (1.73)	Cagliari ... 17 (0.5)	Fiorentina 7, Brescia 0 Inter 5, Atalanta 0 Vicenza 0, Inter 5	Riva (Cagliari) ... 18 Mazzola (Inter) ... 17	Lanerossi ... 24	Brescia, Inter, Juventus ... 17	Inter ... 65,000	Inter ... 83,000
		Internazionale	48										
		Bologna	45										
NETHERLANDS	34	**Ajax Amsterdam**	56	Ajax ... 26	Ajax, Feyenoord ... 4	Ajax ...122 (3.58)	Sparta ... 25 (0.73)	Ajax 8, Elinkwk 0 Feyenoord 5, MVV 0 Ajax 5, Feyenoord 0	Cruyff (Ajax) ... 32 Swart (Ajax) ... 24 Bild (Feyenoord)... 24		Ajax, Sparta, GVAV ... 15	Feyenoord ... 35,000 Ajax ... 22,000 ADO ... 17,000	Feyenoord ... 64,000 DWS ... 46,000 Sparta ... 36,000
		Feyenoord	51										
		Sparta Rotterdam...	48										
PORTUGAL	26	**Benfica**	43	Benfica ... 20	Benfica ... 3	Benfica ... 64 (2.46)	Academica ... 18 (0.69)	Beira Mar 0, Benfica 8 Benfica 7, Guimaraes 0 Belenenses 7, Atletico 1	Eusebio (Benfica)... 31 Jorge (Academica) 25 Djalma (Porto) ... 15	Sporting Lisbon ... 28 Porto ... 26	Braga, Varzim ... 17 Academica ... 18	Benfica ... 30,000 Sporting ... 30,000 Academica ... 30,000	Benfica ... 70,000 Sporting ... 55,000 Academica ... 35,000
		Academica	40										
		Porto	39										
SCOTLAND	34	**Celtic**	58	Celtic ... 26	Celtic ... 2	Celtic ...111 (3.26)	Rangers ... 31 (0.91)		Chalmers (Celtic)... 24 Ferguson (Dunfer.) 19 A. Smith (Rangers) 19				Celtic ... 65,000 Rangers ... 65,000
		Rangers	55										
		Clyde	46										
SPAIN	30	**Real Madrid**	47	Barcelona ... 20	Real Madrid ... 2	Real Madrid, Barcelona, Valencia ... 58 (1.93)	Real Madrid ... 22 (0.73)	At. Madrid 7, Hercules 2 Bilbao 6, Seville 0 Valencia 6, Zaragoza 0	Waldo (Valencia)... 24 Santos (Zaragoza) 15	Atletico Madrid ... 22 Real Madrid ... 21		Real Madrid 61,000 At. Madrid ... 38,000	Real Madrid... 93,000 Atlet. Madrid 55,000
		Barcelona	42										
		Espanol	37										
SWITZERLAND	26	**Basle**	40	Zurich ... 18	Basle ... 2	Zurich ... 70 (2.69)	Basle ... 20 (0.76)	Basle 10, Moutier 0 Moutier 2, Grassh'rs 10	Künzl (Zurich) ... 24 Blaettler (Grassh.) 24	Moutier, Bienne, Young Fellows ... 23	Lugano, Sion ... 16	Basle ... 12,000 Zurich ... 12,000 Young Fellows 12,000	Basle ... 52,000 Zurich ... 24,000 Young Fellows 24,000
		Zurich	39										
		Lugano	39										
YUGOSLAVIA	30	**Sarajevo**	42	Sarajevo ... 18	Dynamo Zagreb ... 5	Zeleznicar ... 53 (1.76)	Dynamo Zagreb... 20 (0.66)		Hasanagic (P'tizan) 18	Red Star, Belgrade 27 Radnicki, Rijeka... 25	Vojvodina ... 17 Sarajevo ... 18	Partizan Bel. 19,000 Red Star Bel. 18,000 Dynamo Zag. 16,000	Red Star ... 55,000 Dynamo Zag. 40,000 Partizan ... 30,000
		Dynamo Zagreb ...	40										
		Partizan Belgrade...	38										

ARTHUR ROTMIL searching the Soccer Scene

FOOTBALL — the greatest and most popular game in the world strives on goals. Whether easy or difficult, brilliant or lucky, own goals or penalty goals, there is no finer sight in soccer than the ball hitting the back of the net.

"Goal" — scream the fans, some of them reaching the point of frenzy. "Goal" — the magic word echoes triumphantly around the stadium. "Goal" — sounds short and sharp, like the cracking lash of a whip. This is what the game is all about. This is what the fans have come to see. Talk to most experts, spectators or players, and you will hear it repeated again and again: "It's goals that count." It is the essence of every move and the crowning achievement of a 90-minute effort. It brings joy to the onlookers, decides matches and can send teams to the pinnacle of fame or plunge them into depths of despair.

Therefore, one could easily fall into the trap of assumption, that as long as goals are scored, the art of *playing* the game matters less. But are goals really the be all and end all of a football match? Consider, for example, the goal averages of the European League championships. This table shows clearly that the amount of goals is not necessarily synonymous with quality soccer.

Northern Ireland	4.5
Luxembourg	3.65
Eire	3.47
Scotland	3.37
Switzerland	3.36
Denmark	3.29
Sweden	3.25
Holland	3.15
Hungary	3.005
England	2.98
Norway	2.97
West Germany	2.92
Austria	2.86
Spain	2.737
East Germany	2.736
Belgium	2.68
Portugal	2.65
France	2.63
Rumania	2.60
Yugoslavia	2.59
Greece	2.47
Poland	2.44
Bulgaria	2.34
Russia	2.23
Italy	2.006

Finding such countries as Northern Ireland, Luxembourg and Eire at the top, then Switzerland (fifth), followed by Denmark, proves conclusively that goals alone are not enough either to draw and satisfy the crowds, without offering a high-class spectacle of skill and technique. In such lowly placed countries as Italy, Russia, Portugal and Spain, wouldn't you rather watch Inter v. Juventus, Dynamo Kiev v. Torpedo, Benfica v. Sporting or Real Madrid v. Barcelona, even if you knew the score would be 1-0? Or would you prefer to see Glentoran v. Crusaders, Jeunesse Esch v. Aris Bonneweg or Dundalk v. Shamrock Rovers, even if you expected the scores to be 6-5, 5-4 or 4-3?

Let's turn to individual marksmen. Welshman Ron Davies of Southampton was England's top scorer last season with 37 goals. In Holland, Johan Cruyff (Ajax) led with 32, like Russia's Datonaschwili (Dynamo Tbilissi), followed by Eusebio of Benfica who got 31, and the same number was scored by France's Revelli (St. Etienne), while in West Germany Müller (Bayern) and Emmerich (Dortmund) each hit 28. It should be remembered, however, that in England 42 games are played, while in France it is 38, in Russia 36, Holland and Germany 34 and in Hungary 26. On average, our old friend Eusebio da Silva Ferreira, Europe's and the World Cup's top scorer, leads with 1.19 per match, followed by Mertl (Union Luxembourg) with 1.0 — through 22 goals in as many matches — and Farkas (Vasas Budapest) — average 0.96.

There may be little to choose between the records of these three on paper, but I would walk miles to see Eusebio or Farkas score just one goal. How far would you go to watch Mertl, or for that matter, the other goalscoring "aces" from Glentoran, Dundalk or Crusaders....

★

Luis Suarez, considered by many to be one of the world's greatest tacticians, has for long been the key figure in the Inter-Milan team. Now manager Helenio Herrera has new plans for Suarez in an effort to re-establish his team as champions of Europe. (A.)

★

INTER'S HUGE CLEAR OUT

WELL PLAYED, SIR...

YOU have heard of Charles de Gaulle, the general, politician and the European Common Market's *libero* who has — successfully, so far — been sweeping out Britain's valiant efforts to break through and "score" with the Six.

But have you heard of De Gaulle, the footballer? Well, this historic episode occurred during the French Cup Final in which Lyon defeated Sochaux by 3-1. With three minutes left for play, and Lyon holding on to a 2-1 lead, their Argentinian-born linkman Hector Maison booted the ball straight into the presidential box, where it was gathered by Monsieur Burin des Roziers, who handed it to the General. De Gaulle rose to his full 6 ft. 4 in. and performed a sort of a throw-in with both hands, drawing frenetic applause from the 32,500 crowd. Actually it was a poor effort, resembling more a two-handed shot putt than a soccer throw as prescribed by the rules, nonetheless it was the first occasion when a Head of State not only presented the trophy — to Fleury di Nallo who, at 5 ft. 3 in., is the smallest footballer in France — but also took an "active" part in the game.

But we can forget stories of De Gaulle having soccer aspirations as a youth, when he is supposed to have played at centre-forward for a college team in Lille. There is a photograph dating back to 1905 or 1906, showing a lanky boy who could have been Charles de Gaulle. This picture was frequently published as that of the President, even before this Cup Final. But now the General revealed that although he was born in Lille, he never went to school there and certainly never played football.

Until that fateful 87th minute, that is, and so he can be forgiven his inadequate throw-in technique!

Still, there is at least one Head of State with genuine soccer talent. Uruguay's president, General (another one!) Oscar Gestido, 66, was, with his recently deceased brother José, a well-known soccer star of the 'twenties. Even now, he rarely misses an important game of his former club, Nacional Montevideo. His brother was a member of the national team which won the Olympic tournament in Amsterdam in 1928 and the first World Cup in Montevideo, in 1930.

CONSCIENCE MONEY?

WHILE on the subject of Uruguay, it appears that their FA in a belated attempt to find scapegoats for the team's failure in the last World Cup, have fined the captain Horacio Troche, the forward Hector Silva and manager Ondino Viera, whom they regard as the chief culprits responsible for Uruguay's quarter-final elimination.

Troche was sent off in the game v. West Germany (0-4) and must pay £300. Silva, who also got marching orders, will fork out £75, while Viera who after the match left the team to their own devices, was fined £133. Thirty-two-year-old Troche, a defender, capped by his country 48 times and formerly with Cerro Montevideo, has now joined, ironically enough, the West German team Alemannia Aachen, who have just gained promotion to the Bundesliga. Among his new team-mates will be the Ecuadorian star Juan-Carlos Borteiro, 24, who previously played for Peñarol.

SORRY, WRONG TEAM...

ONE could call it a case of mistaken identity, when Borussia Mönchen-Gladbach took the field against Botafogo of Ribeirao Preto for a friendly in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The Germans thought that their opponents were *the* famous Botafogo of Rio. The Brazilians, on the other hand, believed they were facing Borussia Dortmund, advertised as the European Cup winners of 1966! But this Botafogo outfit were only a provincial Second Division side.

As the stadium was completely sold out (!) the teams decided to play — or to put it frankly, they tore into each other. The Germans, who lost 1-3, had their international Bernd Rupp sent off and bemoaned so many injured that they were forced to call off their next game v. Corinthians. Only the organisers rubbed their hands with glee. Which just goes to show how a little error in publicity and presentation technique can help a long way towards filling the money bags!

FACT-FINDING DREAM

AN impeccably dressed, curly-haired gentleman with penetrating eyes, set below bushy eyebrows, deposited his comparatively short frame in an enormous armchair in the lounge of the Hotel Esperia in Rome and gave me the widest of grins when I addressed him in Italian: "Signor Helenio Herrera, could you spare me a couple of minutes?" His smile had a two-fold meaning. Firstly, Italian is neither his nor my native tongue. But the Argentinian-born, French-naturalised manager of the deposed Italian soccer kings of Inter-Milan, is a linguist, like myself, and we could have discussed our favourite topic in other languages. Secondly, he knew that two minutes would not be sufficient to find out how Inter were shaping after the recent hammer blows at Lisbon, Mantova and Padova, where they lost the European Cup, Italian championship and the Italian Cup in that order.

English referee Jim Finney sends off Uruguayan Hector Silva during the World Cup match against West Germany at Hillsborough. (A.)

I tactfully refrained from touching on the tender wounds of misfortune. "What about the future?" I inquired hopefully. The rugged features of the man they call alternately the apostle of defensive football, the dictator, slave-driver or "Il Mago" — the Magician, acquired the serious look the occasion demanded. "We have transferred Guarneri, Jair, Picchi, Vinicio, Bicicli and Mereghetti. This has been our biggest clean-out in years. On the other hand, we signed nine new, but mostly experienced men, like Nielsen from Bologna, Bonfanti (ex-Lecco), Colausig (ex-Roma), Mazzola — younger brother of Sandro — and Benitez from Venezia, D'Amato and Dotti (both ex-Lazio), Poli (ex-Vicenza) and Santarini (ex-Rimini).

Herrera has taken his first step towards the rebuilding of the side and he expects to revolutionise Inter's game. How will the new eleven play?

Well, at the moment the standard formation will look like this: Sarti; Burgnich, Landini, Facchetti; Bedin, Suarez; D'Amato, Mazzola, Nielsen, Corso, Domenghini. The accent will be on wingers and, wait for it ... 30-year-old Suarez will perform a new role of a *libero*, IN FRONT of his defenders but only in home matches, while away, the old type of "sweeper" will be played by Dotti. Will Inter resurrect the ultra-defensive methods now condemned by the soccer world? The twinkle and the grin returned to his face. "Chi lo sa?" (who knows?) he said. "We must not be impatient. Soccer is now going through another evolution...." I simply can't wait to see it....

"Signor Rotmil, Signor Rotmil," the hotel pageboy sounds almost frantic as he attempts to wake me. I open my eyes — there is no Herrera. It was all a dream, but other than that, I swear that all the facts above are true.

This has been the quietest transfer period in Italy for years. The "market" is now closed until November 1, when it will reopen but only for a fortnight. No player can be transferred until then and here is a short list of the most important player-movements within the Italian First Division:

Guarneri—From Inter to Bologna.
Picchi—From Inter to Varese.
Jair—From Inter to Roma.
Nielsen—From Bologna to Inter.
Amarildo—From AC Milan to Fiorentina.
Hamrin—From Fiorentina to AC Milan.
Vinicio—From Inter to Vicenza.
Barison—From Roma to Napoli.

UNFAIR ADVANTAGE

WHEN an international footballer earns his living in a night-club, in addition to being paid for playing soccer, it could easily lead to dissention among his team-mates.

The management of Greek First Division club, AEK Athens, has to solve the problem of their star forward and goal-getter Papaioannou, who plays "Busuki", a local instrument, each night till about 1 a.m. The club are not happy about him missing vital sleep before midnight, while his colleagues complain: "We are under contract to go early to bed to keep in trim, but Papaioannou is allowed to return home in the early hours of the morning."

Of course, there is nothing to prevent his mates from becoming accomplished musicians. Or is it simply that no one wants to play second fiddle...?

TORONTO SOCCER TOPICS

KUBALA WAS GREAT CHOICE

by COLIN JOSE

THE Toronto Falcons, doormats of the National Professional Soccer League at the beginning of the seasons, have been transformed by one man — Ladislav Kubala.

Kubala, 40-year-old former world-class star with Barcelona, has been an inspiration to his team-mates since he came out of retirement to assist the Canadian club.

The skill of the former Czech and Spanish international has produced problems for defences, for despite his age and the fact that he hasn't played regularly since 1961, he has shown just how big the difference is between first-class soccer and the NPSL.

In a recent game with the Atlanta Chiefs the Atlanta defence decided the only way to stop him was to kick him hard and often.

I have never before in the years I have been watching soccer seen one player so persistently attacked as was Kubala in this game, and Atlanta were lucky to lose only one player, Delroy Scott, who was sent off for kicking him.

The refereeing in this game was extremely weak, otherwise the attacks might never have occurred, for although one player from each side was sent off, the players ran things for most of the game. I am always loath to criticise the oft-maligned referees, who generally do a fine job in difficult circumstances, but certainly this gentleman was a little out of his depth.

Since Kubala and his son Branko have joined the Falcons, and Fernando Daucik arrived as coach, Toronto have been winning consistently, and if they had been showing this form at the beginning of the season must surely have been challenging for the leadership of the Western Division, instead of trying to avoid the bottom.

Certainly the fine soccer the Falcons have been playing in recent weeks deserves better support than they have been getting.

Just over 2,000 showed up for the Atlanta game, while there were 5,500 the following evening for a lacrosse game at Maple Leaf Gardens. In fact the lacrosse game outdrew the Hibernian v. Shamrock Rovers game played the same evening.

With Nigel Sims out for the rest of the season as a result of the injury he received in the opening game with Philadelphia, the Falcons have signed Juan Vanegas, formerly with Spanish first division club Sabadell, as their second goalkeeper. Vanegas has replaced Bill Brown in recent games.

In the March edition of WORLD SOCCER I attempted to show some of the reasons why soccer has failed to make its mark in North America, and also why the present attempt will take many years to succeed, if it succeeds at all.

It is much too early to draw any conclusions as a result of what has happened to date in the present season, in fact it will have to be at least three years before we can evaluate even some degree of success or failure.

One thing has as yet shown no sign of altering — the atrocious coverage given to soccer by the news media and in particular by the newspapers. It would almost seem as if sports writers, editors and commentators were for some ulterior motive, bent on destroying interest before it can begin.

During the weeks following the start of the NPSL in April, and the USA in May, the newspapers carried all the results plus summaries of each game. The radio and television also gave the results.

In the case of the newspapers this coverage tapered off, until after about one month some papers carry the results plus the tables, while others, including the paper voted as having the finest sports pages of any in Canada, have dropped them altogether, except to fill spaces where there is nothing else to print.

Impersonal

Because of the distances involved all newspapers and radio stations in North America rely heavily on the press agencies, and there is very little personal coverage of sports outside of the immediate area of the paper.

Both the Canadian and Associated Press cover all kinds of sports, both on this continent and around the world. Since soccer seems to fall into this category, it comes in for some recognition, albeit the barest possible.

The knowledge of the press agency soccer writer would seem to be about nil, for the reports are often grossly inaccurate and very misleading to fans who are just trying to learn about the game.

An excellent example reads thus concerning the Benfica–Manchester United game in Los Angeles. "A crowd of 20,380 in Memorial Coliseum saw Benfica gain revenge for a *World Cup* defeat earlier this year."

The newspaper I mentioned earlier that was voted as having the top sports pages, recently published the result of the first game the Canadian soccer team played against Cuba (you needed a magnifying glass to find it), but completely ignored the second.

Shortly afterwards it contained for some days a large advertisement for the Soccer Spectacular in Toronto between Eintracht Brunswick and Lodz of Poland. The day after the game you couldn't even find the result let alone a report.

There is one area in which soccer fans can have no complaints this season, and this is in the televising of games. Most games are televised about a week or more after they were played (except for the Expo Tournament and the CBS coverage on Sunday which can only be seen by Canadians who live close to the United States border), but they are covered and this is bound to help in the long run.

Recently some of the home games of the Vancouver Royal Canadians have been shown on the Canadian Television Network, in addition to those of Toronto City. Handling the colour commentary and doing an excellent job has been Jeff Cross, the soccer writer for the west coast paper, the *Vancouver Province*, who occasionally writes for WORLD SOCCER. It is a change to hear a soccer commentator over here who really knows what he is talking about.

One of the reasons behind the decision to start soccer on a large scale here is the large number of European immigrants to arrive since 1946. It is assumed that they will be the major supporters of soccer, and will flock to the stadiums at the mere mention of the word.

To date this has not been the case and no doubt soccer promoters must be shaking their heads at this enigma and wondering why? Attendances in both leagues are below what the owners had a reason to expect, especially in the United Soccer Association where the name teams have done no better than the squads in the NPSL except in a few cases.

As an example of the enigma of attendances let us consider Toronto, and in particular the games sponsored by Toronto City in the USA. The first game was an exhibition between Glasgow Rangers and Sparta, and was attended by a predominantly Scottish crowd of 21,000.

Then came Hibernian to represent Toronto City in the USA and in their home games they drew the following crowds:

v. Aberdeen	12,000
v. Wolverhampton W.	3,663
v. Cagliari	15,178
v. Sunderland	4,385
v. Shamrock Rovers	3,152
v. Glentoran	3,106

Toronto promoter Steve Stavro also staged a game between Eintracht Brunswick and LKS Lodz of Poland—this drew a crowd of 7,000.

A great many immigrants of all nationalities live in the Toronto area, and a large number of them have soccer backgrounds; therefore one would assume that here was an excellent market for first-class soccer, but comparison of attendances produces anything but the results one would expect.

Vancouver, the other main soccer centre in Canada, showed about the same attendance.

Why don't people who like soccer go to games? Well, I am sure soccer promoters all over North America would like to know the answer to that one.

Cuba beat Canada 3-2 on aggregate in the qualification round of the Olympic Soccer Tournament. Both games were played in Clarke Stadium in Edmonton, Alberta, and a total of around 8,000 people watched both games.

More experienced

Canada managed a tie with the more experienced Cubans in the first game, but lost the second 2-1.

Keeping the Italian population of Toronto informed of what is going on in the soccer world and doing an excellent job is the Italian weekly newspaper, *Il Giornale di Toronto*.

Perhaps because the Italians are able to maintain their interest in soccer through this newspaper while other nationalities have to rely on Canadian newspapers, it is why Italians are the greatest supporters of soccer in the Toronto area.

Club Focus on Everton

Youth policy will pay off

by KEN ASHTON

MENTION Everton and the mental picture that builds up immediately before the average football fan is one of a big-money club, writing blank cheques for some of Britain's most expensive players.

Players like Alan Ball, who set the Merseyside club back £100,000 last season ... like Howard Kendall, who cost them £80,000 from Preston North End to beat Liverpool in the race.

It's a picture that has built up over the last few years with the purchase of players like Alex Young, who cost them £41,000 when they signed him from Hearts seven years ago; Tony Kay, an expensive buy at £55,000 from Sheffield Wednesday in 1962; Fred Pickering, for whom they paid £80,000 in 1964; and Ray Wilson, who cost £40,000 three years ago, when he moved from Huddersfield.

With trading figures like these, it is small wonder that Everton have been named the Bank of England club and have overshadowed even Manchester United in the auction shops of British soccer.

But slowly there is another side emerging. Manager Harry Catterick has always maintained that while big money is the answer to immediate problems, the only insurance against failure over the years is a workable youth policy that provides the ultimate in home-made skill and loyalty.

But while youth policies can be worked out in minutes on paper or in the manager's mind, they take years to mature, like the best insurance policies.

However, Everton's long-term plan, of which expert coaching and world-class facilities are only a part, is beginning to pay off.

Look through the Everton side that wound up last season and will almost certainly kick off this term and you find no fewer than four home-grown players who have already established themselves alongside the big money buys and have, accordingly, increased their own evaluation overnight.

Latest find at Goodison Park is Jimmy Husband, the perky little North Eastern player who fought his way into the Everton side last season mainly due to the plague of injuries that handicapped Catterick's plans. Husband came in as an emergency choice and made himself indispensable because of goal scoring feats that any established star would have been proud to claim.

His talent for poaching goals and making them, the sort of persistence that brought the only goal of the game when Everton knocked Liverpool out of the FA Cup last season, brands him as the type of player in the Alan Ball mould who crops up once in a manager's lifetime.

ALAN BALL. (A.)

Husband is the latest of the Catterick finds. Tommy Wright and Colin Harvey, despite their youth, are virtually old hands. Wright, learning the arts of full-back work the hard way in top flight competition at home and on the Continent, is already a full-back of matching ability to Ray Wilson, and praise can come no higher than that. His coolness, shrewd play and resilience shows he is a valuable defender and his age means he is there to solve one defensive problem for many seasons.

Harvey is the king-pin among the Everton youngsters. His apprenticeship at inside-forward, playing a fetching and carrying role, served him in good stead when Catterick moved him back to become link man and provider of chances last season. No other player in the Everton side can match him for industry and, on form, he has a cute style and uncanny ability that has put him among the top flight of young players.

John Hurst, the strapping strong-man of the Everton half-back line, is, like Husband, another "emergency" man who came to stay and conquer. Like Harvey, a tireless forager and 90-minute player, his play blossomed with the experience that came the hard way last season.

These are all first team men at the present time. But in his reserve team, Catterick still has a handful of players who are ready and waiting to make their bid for the big time. Players like centre-forward Joe Royle, who has already had a bite at first team football.

These players all serve as tributes to the deep thinking and careful planning that has gone on away from Goodison Park. At Bellefield, Everton's training ground, manager Catterick has designed personally a top-class training system that has no equal in Britain.

The players could live on the premises if need be. From his office window there — he is rarely at the Goodison Park ground mid-week — the Everton boss can see every training pitch and watch all the activities going on around him.

If it rains, he can take his players into a gymnasium that has a cinder floor and houses a full size pitch completely under cover and with every modern technique for training footballers. His training staff, headed by Tommy Eggleston, has every qualification and every aid needed to turn out custom-built footballers of the high standard Everton insist upon.

The players are well fed, well cared for and well paid. The car park at Bellefield looks like the directors' section at any big business concern.

It sounds like a pampered existence for the princes of modern soccer. It is far from it. Catterick is a track-suit manager who works his players and himself.

Big money may have made Everton. But it is faith in youth and the ability Catterick is drawing out of the talent he and his staff so diligently search for that is going to keep them great.

Summer pause is now at its height

EUROPEAN COMMENTARY by GORDON JEFFERY

THE middle weeks of summer mark an almost complete shut-down of football in Europe so far as domestic competitions are concerned. Even those countries that feel forced by climatic conditions to have a mid-winter break (less of them than there used to be), feel equally constrained to pause again when summer is at its height.

Usually the halt comes at a convenient mid-way stage in their League championship fixtures. In Sweden, for example, the first half of the season ended on June 29 when Malmo FF had an excellent chance to take a clear lead. Djurgaarden had finished their first half of the season fixtures earlier in the week. Then they had beaten GAIS by two goals to nil to aggregate 16 points. Malmo were at home to lowly-placed Elfsborg and with the knowledge that a win would bring them up to 17 points. In the event the match with Elfsborg was goalless and Malmo's position in front at the pause is by virtue of their superior goal average.

Below the joint leaders come AIK with 15 points, then Halsingborg and Orebro each with 13. Close enough for an exciting resumed second half of the season when, however, some familiar faces will probably be absent as the professional clubs of Europe continue to offer Swedish players the chance to make good money doing what they enjoy doing. No one can blame them for taking advantage of such chances.

The League championship seasons came to a halt at similar stages in the other Scandinavian countries. In Denmark the position at the top was excitingly close with Hvidore the leaders with 15 points and three clubs only a point behind—Frem, AB and Horsens. Aalborg were in fifth place a further point behind and Esbjerg, in the bottom half of the table, were but four points behind the leaders. This is a 12-club First Division and Hvidore were unbeaten in their first 11 matches but the odd, more-Italian-than-Danish aspect was that they had drawn seven of them! No prizes for guessing that Hvidore have conceded less goals than any other Danish club—only seven compared with the next best of AB and Aalborg who have each let in 12. Similarly no prizes for guessing that the leaders are not the most prolific of goal-scorers—Hvidore's first half of the season's total is 18. Four clubs, including two (Aarhus and Vejle) in the bottom half of the table, have scored more, and two as many.

League First Division football came to a pause in Poland a week sooner than it did in Sweden but there the mid-summer break marks the *end* of the League season. There might well have been an inspired last act with the leading two clubs, Gornik and Zaglebie, in opposition for the final match on Zaglebie's ground. But, after the two had been neck-and-neck for much of the season, Gornik had opened up a three-point lead that a Zaglebie victory could have reduced but not erased. Appropriately the match was drawn—two-all. The Second Division programme had still to be completed in Poland and the semi-finals and final of the Cup played. The Final was not indeed staged until July 9—and it very nearly produced a result that would really have made nonsense of the disinterest of the Fairs' Cup Committee in an application for entry on behalf of Queen's Park Rangers!

Objectively

Were I a fervent QPR supporter I would have moaned about this—in private conversation if not in print, but objectively *in the circumstances of this competition as it still stands at the moment* there can be no appeal. The Fairs' Cup remains a competition for which national associations are invited to put forward the names of clubs, whose entry they have approved, for final acceptance by the organising committee. This is not an altogether unusual procedure—all manner of tournaments have been, and still are, by invitation but, of course, none of these have acquired the overall importance or the prestige of the Fairs' Cup competition. It is a major European club competition with an excess of clubs clamouring for entry into it. Those early years when it was almost a case of seeking volunteers are even further away in thought than they are in fact. National associations have had to become increasingly above reproach in their recommendations and most have sought the solution by making current national league positions the yardstick for selection. There are some exceptions in favour of clubs who have been faithful to the competition since its inception in the days before the Champions' Cup had got off the ground and the Cup-Winners' Cup was unthought of. There are complications when entries for the Fairs' Cup have to be made before national league fixtures have been completed and the final positions known. Problems too with clubs wanting entry to the Fairs' Cup still engaged in their national Cup competition — victory in which would, of course, give entry to the Cup-Winners' Cup competition. Generally, however, one can accept that national associations nominate for entry to the Fairs' Cup their leading clubs not engaged in either the Champions' or the Cup-Winners' Cup competition. But how they select is their own affair. What is not their affair is whether their nominations are accepted.

Yardstick

In England, of course, there has been a departure from the league position yardstick with the Football League (whose recommendations are automatically accepted by the FA for submission) seeing their own Cup competition as a reasonable one to serve as a qualifying tourney for a place in the Fairs' Cup. It was perhaps never envisaged that a Third Division club would win the Football League Cup. True, Second Division Rotherham United had reached the Final of the first Football League Cup competition (1960–61) and Second Division Norwich City had beaten Fourth Division Rochdale in the second one, but that was in the years of considerable abstention and general indifference on the part of the big clubs. Once the revenue attraction of the competition became more apparent and even more as the bonus of possible Fairs' Cup entry was added, the First Division clubs have come into their own again and they provided both finalists for the succeeding four seasons. And in a Cup competition attracting all but two or three of the Football League clubs it was reasonable to expect the winner to come from the First Division. After all it has been nearly 40 years since a Second Division club won the FA Cup and indeed only five times since the Football League commenced in the season 1888–89 have First Division clubs failed to win the FA Cup—four Second Division clubs and one Southern League club were the intruders.

Comment

That Queen's Park Rangers, a Third Division club, should win the Football League Cup was perhaps as much an indication of the considerable difference that exists between the importance of the FA Cup and the FL Cup so far as the big clubs are concerned, as it was evidence of the fact that QPR were an exceptionally good Third Division side. Yet there was, without him knowing it, a double-edge to Fairs' Cup secretary, Joris Ivens' comment to the effect that if English First and Second Division clubs were foolish enough to let a Third Division club win the Football League Cup that was their affair—it did not concern the Fairs' Cup Committee who would not welcome entry from the lower regions of national leagues.

The comment is a fair one but would not stand too close examination. Although at the time QPR were a Third Division club they had given pretty conclusive evidence of the fact that they were on their way UP, and by the time the entries needed to be finalised for the Fairs' Cup competition they were as assuredly a Second Division club as were Blackpool and Aston Villa, due for relegation from the First Division. Would either of the latter clubs have been excluded had they won the Football League Cup?

The solution will come when the European Federation take over responsibility for the running of the Fairs' Cup as they are already responsible for the Champions' and the Cup-Winners' Cup. In both of these the qualification for entry is fixed—there is no room for national or inter-national discretion. Even the priority of the competitions is fixed. A champion club who are also their national cup winners, cannot opt to play in the Cup-Winners' Cup in preference to the Champions'. It is also, incidentally, stipulated that a qualifier for the Cup-Winners' Cup cannot compete instead in the Fairs' Cup as Zaragoza wanted to do a couple of years ago when they were holders of the Fairs' Cup. And this brings me to the double-edge to Joris Ivens' remark and to that Polish Cup Final of July, 1967.

Paraphrase

The order of priority puts the Cup-Winners' Cup in front of the Fairs' Cup — my personal feeling has always been that the Fairs' Cup has a higher standard of entrant than the Cup-Winners' but that is not the point. Yet because entry to the Cup-Winners' Cup is fixed there can be no possibility of a national cup-winner being excluded however "foolish leading clubs might be to let a club from a lower division emerge as the winners", to roughly paraphrase the Fairs' Cup attitude towards QPR's victory—a victory incidentally offering far richer rewards than do a majority of national Cup competitions and not one that would have been lightly ignored by English First and Second Division clubs!

Misleading

The very terms First, Second and Third Division are misleading of course. Clearly there is no equation between the First Division of each individual European nation and there is a case for arguing that the English Third is on a par with the First of several countries it would be invidious to mention. Yet, as the position exists, the Fairs' Cup are entitled to expect the best available clubs from each country. The champions and the national cup-winners are not available but the two or three highest-placed First Division clubs after the excluded "pair" are clearly the best available. One supposes that when UEFA take over the competition, the conditions for entry will be fixed along those lines—unless the FL/FA are able to persuade them to take note of their FL Cup competition. There are, of course, other countries—Scotland, France, for example—with a similar competition and if they were able to persuade UEFA to accept the winning of such competitions as a qualification for the Fairs' Cup, one consequence might be an extension of League Cup competitions. Most professional countries would probably welcome such an additional incentive to run a money-raising competition.

Impolite

Meantime two goals scored in extra time in Kielce saved the secretary of some national cup-winning club the problem of finding how to get to Czestochowa where the Polish Third Division club Rakow play. Again I feel it would be impolitic of me to attempt an assessment of the standard of play in the Polish Third Division—with tongue in cheek I do suggest that QPR would give all member clubs a good run for their money. But Rakow won their way to the Polish Cup Final and at the end of 90 minutes' play there was still no score in this final match against Wisla—bottom half of the Polish First Division. Then Sykta scored after 106 minutes' play and four minutes later Skupnik added a second for Wisla, to give the Cracow club the trophy for the first time. They had been beaten 2-0 by Ruch in the first competition in 1951 and beaten finalists again in 1954—losing to Gwardia Warsaw by three goals to one in a replay after the first match had been goalless.

Fortunes

Whilst 7,000 spectators watched this Polish Cup Final, a larger number of fans were showing interest in the fortunes of Polish clubs like Zaglebie Sosnowiec, Polonia Bytom, GKS Katowice and Ruch Chorzow in the 1967 Summer European League (Rappan Cup)—the nearest we have to a European League at the moment. With Danish clubs making their first appearance this year the total of European nations that have taken part at some time or other in the competition has risen to 16.

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Careers are short yet rewards great

ENGLISH REVIEW

by Leslie Page

COMMENCING the new campaign, the English footballer knew he was entering a long period of intense work where the rewards, although better than they were, could be drastically reduced by injury and bad temper. The football life on the field of play, is gradually becoming shorter and shorter and in these circumstances little blame could be attached to those who sought the best possible deal they could get in financial terms.

Directors and managers talked inevitably about the attitude of men who appeared to consider themselves first and the club a good second. Club officials are not ogres, but players have the right to get the best deal they can when careers can be limited and only vastly lucrative in selected cases.

The ten-month season demands almost total commitment and even the months of June and July are filled with football for those who have travelled to the United States and elsewhere. A break has hardly existed for some and most clubs reported back for training in mid-July prior to pre-season encounters and even short external tours.

Those senior members of the Football League who have laboured hard and long during the summer break will start to understand whether players are atuned to this continual process by examining players' reactions towards the end of October. Maybe the day of summer football, possibly, with new competitions is almost upon us. Certainly, interest can be continually sustained in many an area, although it remains to be seen if all clubs, especially those with limited staffs, are able to keep up with this pace.

The substitute for injury rule which I thought worked so very well in the main, was always open to suspicion and as was said at the time of its introduction, the next logical step was to permit substitution without the injury clause. The FA Council decided in July that a new man could come on the field at any time and for any reason which in many respects suggested that a manager would be in the position of selecting 12 men and not 11.

This virtually is the case for clubs with a playing staff in depth. The pattern is somewhat different at the lower end of the scale. Far less fraud was perpetrated by the injury substitution than was originally imagined. There were cases, of course, which raised eyebrows, but nothing extraordinary calling for official investigation.

Twelve men on call adds yet another dimension to the game and can significantly alter the chances of clubs stricken by injury or bad form. More chances can be taken by managers with only partially fit men who are likely to break-down in the knowledge that there is a substitute on the side-lines. The vital problem remains for the manager; that of deciding where and when to send in the spare man for once the substitution has been made there is nothing left in reserve and no going back.

Aston Villa players welcome their new manager, Tommy Cummings, to Villa Park. (W.1.)

Even the original injury ruling brought to an end the farcical situation of a team penalised by the loss of a player at the start of a vital piece of entertainment and it is now an established fact that football must bear in mind the commercial aspect which to many of us is a vast change of attitude. The days when spectators were considered only a secondary factor are rapidly being left behind and clubs which do not attend to the demands of their audiences are due for a sad blow to their dignity.

If it now appears the spectator has gained a large measure of control, the fact is such a situation could have been forecast over the past six or seven years. The watching public were always on the side of players wanting more money, although they continued to be staggered by the amounts passing between clubs in the way of transfer fees. Spectators actively resented a match being spoiled by injuries and they respond to an air of showmanship.

The more they feel a part of a club, the better it is for all concerned. The "togetherness" comes from a spirit of understanding and when a club communicates with its audiences and even potential audiences, a bond is forged. Those who only make statements and reveal information when they are attacked, are storing up an awful lot of ill will. Whatever boards of directors might think, spectators are in the box seat and they like to feel wanted.

This says nothing for ground facilities, but it does mean that if a centre-half is obviously needed in the team, spectators are entitled to know why the club do not buy one. An explanation of finances will usually satisfy the supporter who knows how difficult it is to budget in his own life. Secrecy by clubs leads to suspicion and this atmosphere quickly reflects in the play of the team who feel they are friendless and without hope.

Whilst many League clubs swapped and traded players in the market place during the close season, one felt there was bound to be an upsurge of bargaining immediately prior to the big kick-off. Bill Shankly stepped in for the signature of

Tony Hateley, the centre-forward Chelsea purchased when Peter Osgood broke his leg. Hateley's 32 League and Cup games for Tommy Docherty brought him nine goals and a Wembley Cup Final appearance.

Hateley's suitability was continually questioned at Stamford Bridge, although there was the feeling the player tried extremely hard to adapt his style to that of Chelsea. His capabilities were well known before the move from Aston Villa and he is now faced with the task of satisfying an even more critical audience at Anfield.

Everton, thought to be overstocked with talent, released wing-half Jimmy Gabriel to Southampton for a £50,000 fee and still looked a most interesting new season bet. The vast sums spent at Goodison Park are all designed to make Everton a team capable of blasting their way to success. Alan Ball's arrival just before last season started, changed the team's tactics to a considerable extent. To illustrate the club will not rely upon buying outside talent, Harry Catterick has only to point to the outstanding introduction of home produced wing-halves, Colin Harvey and John Hurst and in juxtaposition the purchase of Howard Kendall, who was unable to gain a League position immediately.

APPEARED

Fred Pickering, out of the game through injury for much of last term, appeared to be on the brink of another move and it was more than obvious that Everton were intent on improving on the sixth League spot which they occupied last May. Everton were a side to be watched with Manchester United and Spurs once again involved in Europe. Nottingham Forest only just failed to gain major honours last term and along with Liverpool and Leeds United, must be up with the high flyers.

The struggle for power amongst the senior members of Division I could easily lie with those who challenged so strongly before. One of these years Chelsea will surprise everyone, maybe, even themselves; Arsenal finished so well in May, Bertie Mee could covet something more than a vain hope and Leicester City and Stoke remain difficult opposition.

There is danger in the air right from the start for Southampton, although the arrival of Gabriel will be a telling factor; Newcastle, too, scampered away from trouble only at a late stage, along with near-neighbours, Sunderland. Managers Joe Harvey and Ian McColl have plenty at stake in attempting to keep the north-east flag fluttering strongly from the masthead. Vic Buckingham at Fulham starts as he always does with hope and faith and the dark clouds which accompany the club season by season must, one day, obscure their Division I sun.

RAMPANT

Wolverhampton Wanderers are back with the seniors and if not the rampant Wolves of ten years ago, at least they know what misfortune feels like and will be doubly careful of steaming into troubled waters. The big question mark, of course, hangs over Coventry, the club of which the Midlands can be proud. The enthusiasm is tremendous, the optimism unbounded as well it might be, moving up from Division III in 1964 and three years later making Division I as Division II champions.

There is much credit to Jimmy Hill, a manager very much in the modern pattern, who has set out to make Coventry a name in League football and has succeeded in no small measure. To start the season Mr. Hill will rely upon the men who won promotion, but the fund raising activities of the club are such that if he needs a certain player, there would be no difficulty about obtaining the transfer cash.

Jimmy Hill will seek to plant the name of Coventry in a big way, although he can only point to Ian Gibson, at £60,000 his costliest purchase, and centre-half, George Curtis, 11 years with the club who has missed only three matches in eight years, as player names which roll readily off the tongue. The impression is that Coventry are not giving a thought to the short senior lives of Orient, Northampton and Ipswich.

APPOINTED

Aston Villa who dropped into Division II, have appointed Tommy Cummings as manager. Cummings previously guided the fortunes of Mansfield, who enjoyed a fair Division III position last May, after leaving Burnley where he gave sterling service as a player for many years. The appointment is the sixth post-war team chief at Villa Park. Chesterfield dispensed with the services of Tony McShane, manager for the past five years, and Grimsby parted with Jimmy McGuigan.

Blackpool, also relegated with Villa, are back in Division II for the first time since 1937, so a long spell amidst the élite is broken. There are too many anxious sides in the section to hold out serious hopes of a quick return for the team could win only one League game at Bloomfield Road last season.

The obvious claims of Carlisle, Blackburn Rovers, Huddersfield, Ipswich and several others will not be denied lightly. Truly, Division II is a challenging department which takes Queen's Park Rangers and Middlesbrough back into their fold, Middlesbrough after one season, Rangers returning for the first time since 1952.

PROMOTED

Northampton Town, out of Division IV in 1961, return to Division III from which they were promoted in 1963 after a season apiece in Divisions I and II. Dave Bowen is still at the helm and the rise and fall of the club must be an object lesson to many who hope to improve their station. The clubs which have travelled this route in the past few years deserve some pity. Northampton with fortitude and flying in the face of many a precedent, retain their manager and in the process a semblance of dignity.

AGREEMENT

There is some hope that the four "home" international bodies will be able to arrive at an agreement on the date of matches so that the battle between club and country does not have to be fought for ever. Whilst the "home" Championship means less now than it used to, games in Northern Ireland and Wales still draw substantial gates and the receipts are important to the respective associations. Too often in the past, clubs have refused to allow the release of their men and Ireland and Wales have put unrepresentative teams into the competition.

The possibility of playing these internationals in May in season 1968–69 exists, but there are still many bridges to be crossed. The cry is for Saturday matches which do not clash with League requirements. The battle between finances, presenting entertainment, the co-operation of the clubs and the desires of the four international associations continues.

Coventry City's extremely talented Scottish inside-forward Ian Gibson, who joined the Midland club from Middlesbrough for a record £60,000. (W.1.)

Scottish News

SAFARI TO CONTINUE

by JOHN STONE

PAINED were the expressions all over Scotland at the news — now, it seems, premature — that the British International Championship matches would, after the forthcoming new season, never again take place on Saturdays.

Thousands upon thousands of Scots saw the announcement, following a meeting of the four Home Countries FAs, as the end of their every-two-years safari to London, and the Wembley clash with England.

As we saw in the spring, this is still by far the most important date in the Scottish football fan's diary. The Wembley pilgrimage every second season is a heritage, passed down from father to son and so forth.

The very thought that it would never again take place was like the announcement of the passing of a dear old friend.

Fortunately, however, it now appears as if the Wembley safari — but no more digging up that famous ground's sacred centre-circle — could continue.

The suggestion now is that instead of midweek internationals, making travel from Scotland to London virtually impossible for the working classes and masses, all Home internationals will now be kept for a specific period in the spring of each year, after the domestic situations in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales have been resolved.

Truthfully, this seems the ideal solution, because it will, if it does nothing else, tidy the Home Championship up neatly, with all matches being played inside a couple of weeks or so, and not spread over the entire season, as at present.

Meantime, the competition goes on as planned next term, when Scotland have a magnificent opportunity of representing the British quartet in the later stages of the Nations' Cup.

All, it has already been prematurely decided, will depend on Scotland's meeting with England next year at Hampden.

What an insult to the Irish and Welsh. Although neither seems to have much chance of winning the group dominated by the World Champions, England, and the first nation to beat them after their World Cup success — Scotland, of course! — Wales and Ireland can still play a big part in deciding who tops the table currently headed by the Scots.

Scotland go to Belfast to tackle Ireland on October 21, knowing they must win, then beat Wales at Hampden, to be sure of going into the England game still favourites to top the section.

If they can secure two victories against Ireland and Wales, a draw against the Old Enemy will be enough to sail through.

And two wins is what Bobby Brown, after his magnificent start as national team boss, must aim for.

That Wembley win over England was the greatest morale-raiser Scottish fans have had in years.

Followed by Celtic's wonderful European Cup win, the Scottish supporter has every reason to believe, once more, that the soccer he watches is as good as anything in Europe.

That's why I expect another mass invasion in October, with Scots streaming across the Irish Sea to cheer their heroes on to another win in the Home Championship.

The greater the support, the better the players will like it, for make no mistake, Belfast will be no bed of roses.

Looking even further ahead, I gather that Scotland, if they do top the section, are likely to be asked for a friendly fixture next year by the deposed World Champions, Brazil.

They are embarking on a really tough build-up to Mexico, and from what I hear, they feel the winners of the British group will welcome a challenge match against them as an aid to both countries' future preparations.

Brazil are just about the most attractive visitors to our shores at international level. That is yet another added incentive to the Scots in the season just begun.

September looks like being quite a month for Scottish clubs in Europe.

Celtic have certainly picked a tough first round match in defence of the European Cup crown, being paired with Dynamo Kiev.

Worried

Kiev are by no means invincible. They have already been eliminated from the USSR Cup this season.

From their record, they do not seem the toughest side Celtic have encountered, so it will be something of a national disaster if the Parkhead heroes of last term don't get through. Still, September will tell.

Aberdeen, who played so magnificently for Scotland in the recent FIFA-recognised American soccer competition, losing 6-5 by an own goal to Wolves in the final, make their long-awaited entrance into Europe with a first round clash against KRFC Reykjavik of Iceland.

That should be a fairly straightforward task for the Dons, whose skipper, veteran Harry Melrose, is convinced the American trip will have done the Pittodrie lads nothing but good.

Another favourable point is that no matter how cold it may be in Iceland, the Dons are the one Scottish club who should not be troubled too much. Their home matches are usually played in a temperature as cool as you'll find anywhere in the British Isles.

This is being written before the draw for the Fairs' Cup matches was made, so how Scotland will fare there is anybody's guess.

Rangers, of course, will be our leading lights here. Never have the Ibrox club opened a season knowing that it is vital to their great image.

They have been well and truly relegated to second place in the Scottish game by Celtic, and they are not prepared to let this situation last long.

Rangers did magnificently with what I can only describe as one of their more moderate teams in reaching the final of the Cup-Winners' Cup last season.

Perhaps that run will, in itself, act as an incentive to them. Celtic's success already has, of course.

And like their great Glasgow rivals, they

● *Continued on page 38*

Roger Hynd of Rangers "scores" during the European Cup Winners' Cup final against Bayern Munich . . . but it was disallowed. (M.)

It's a simple Game

FOOTBALL is a simple game. Its rules and regulations are easily understood by everybody —this is the secret of its universal popularity. In recent years with the advent of the various new formations and the so-called scientific approach, the game has become more complex, less enjoyable to watch, but still fascinating and entertaining.

At first, this changing pattern of the play was disliked by the majority of the public all over the world, but with the help of the Press, they have been re-educated in the art of looking at a football match, and I believe that at the present time we have more knowledgeable crowds everywhere than ever before.

As the supporter has more awareness of the subtle intricacies of the game itself, he has also become more interested in the background and the running of the different competitions. He likes to see "fair play" on the pitch and expects the ruling bodies to be impartial and just. The sad truth is that the international committees have fallen far short of these high-minded requirements. Football diplomacy has developed into a business for men skilled in deception, intrigue and double-talk. Self-interest, "the best deal for my side" attitude have taken the place of the genuine desire to strive for the aims which are most beneficial to the game itself. Monetary considerations are uppermost in everybody's mind, as though they were running a giant international supermarket—not the affairs of the world's most important sport.

Pressures

It was last year's farcical World Cup draw, televised to millions, which demonstrated openly for the first time that back-stage pressures and influences have a vital say in the outcome of international tournaments. The latest manifestation of this mismanagement was the European Cup draw. Officials of the UEFA and the representatives of the competing clubs gathered in Geneva for the seemingly simple task of pulling 64 names out of a hat.

Instead of doing just that, they decided to complicate matters by working out some sort of seeding system. I do not believe in seeding teams in any Cup competition. The main attraction of the FA Cup is the element of luck involved. And while it is possible to work out a national ranking list in any single country, how do you classify teams in an international competition, where the champions and Cup holders of different nations are taking part?

Are all champions equal or some more equal than others?

After two days of furious behind-the-scenes diplomatic activities the UEFA presented us with the dullest draw in the history of the Champions' Cup, a direct result of the ludicrous seeding system they have finally accepted. Teams were kept apart under three different headings, although in reality, clause 3 made clause 1 superfluous.

1. Clubs which have played in a European Cup Final.
2. Clubs which have reached the last eight of a competition.
3. Clubs representing a country which had a finalist in the past.

Following this formula, no less than ten teams were seeded in each competition—nearly as many officers as privates!

I find clause 3 the most objectionable and illogical. Why should clubs which have themselves achieved nothing receive special treatment? St. Etienne is seeded in 1967 because Rheims reached the Final in 1956! Sarajevo is privileged on account of Partizan and the unknown Eintracht Braunschweig owes a letter of thanks to Eintracht Frankfurt!

The entire affair reflects very little credit on the UEFA and the uninteresting pairings will produce the lowest aggregate attendances of a "first round" for a long time.

The playing period of the third round was also the subject of involved diplomatic manœuvres, the Eastern European countries would like to see the date extended to April 1 instead of the proposed March 20. They have a good chance of success in return for reciprocal concessions, I suppose. To get this miserable ten days' extension granted would be—and I quote, "a great diplomatic victory!"

The "away-goals count double" principle was introduced for the Champions' Cup and many other possible reforms were discussed. The "one-tie only" system was mentioned, but was rejected for financial reasons. In this country, Brian Glanville is a prominent advocate of this solution, partly to avoid fixture congestion and partly to eliminate the possibility of the ridiculous method of spinning a coin to decide the outcome of an important football match. This sort of reasoning reminds me of the man who was so afraid of death that he committed suicide.

With one-match ties instead of the toss-up after three drawn games, we would have a decisive draw for home advantage even before a ball was kicked in anger. I have lost faith in the integrity of these international football parliaments. I would not like to see a system where blind chance (?) decides whether a match is going to be played in Milan or Aberdeen. The game itself is much bigger, more important than any of its legislators individually or collectively. These men, who are constantly preaching the gospel of "fair play" and good behaviour on the pitch, should be made more conscious of their own responsibilities to create an attractive image for football. They should serve the game unstintingly, not handicap it with their own self-importance. The "corridors of power" should be the tunnels leading from the dressing rooms to the pitches — not the coffee lounges of a smart hotel in Geneva!

Puzzling

The integrity of the officials of the English FA could not be questioned, but their thinking and motivations are often puzzling. Their latest brainchild is the shifting of the Home Championship to the end of the season, so as "not to interfere with the League fixtures". Why not? This is precisely one of the functions of international matches—to provide a little welcome variety in the repetitive and tedious menu of continuous League football.

The other important reason for playing internationals during a season is to keep the national team together as an effective unit. I do not think Sir Alf Ramsey will be satisfied with close season engagements only, with nearly ten months' breaks in between.

He will arrange matches against Continental opposition during the season and use the meaningless, unnecessary inter-League fixtures as international get-togethers. In a League programme embracing 42 matches, surely two Saturdays for internationals could be spared? The few postponed matches should be played on the following Monday. The clubs are constantly

Leslie Vernon Speaking Personally

bleating about "too many matches" and "stale players" but they do not complain about the traditional three-match Easter period or about the countless silly friendly matches they arrange themselves. Not so long ago there were only "Possibles v. Probables" matches a week prior to the season's opening, but nowadays the leading teams travel all over Europe in search of easy money while pretending that this is the best way to get ready for an already over-long campaign.

There are two real reasons why the Home Championship was turned into an "off-season" travelling circus. 1, After one hundred years' existence, it has just dawned on the officials of the FA that it is rather quaint to play "international" matches between people carrying the same passports. 2, They do not dare to upset the Pools promoters.

Years ago this source of income was regarded as immoral, but now it is considered as manna from heaven—so nothing should upset the precious fixture lists. The very same Pools promoters could not care less about the welfare of football. In 1963, during the heavy winter, they insulted the whole concept of the sport when they were running the pools on fictitious results compiled by "experts". I would advise them to do the same regarding the matches postponed because of an international. This is a clear case of the tail wagging the dog! The moguls of the FA should think again and rescind their cowardly decision.

The voices of the two smaller Associations, Wales and N. Ireland, were not listened to during the debates. They were fobbed off with the pitiful promise that after the season, it will be easier for them to obtain the release of the players from the clubs.

I consider that this should be their right at any time during or after the season. And what will happen if this "after-thought" of a tournament is played during the same week as the European Cup Final with a British team involved?

Who do you think a Gemmell, Law or George Best would be playing for? His country or his club?

CONCACAF Commentary

by GORDON JEFFERY

Interest rife in this zone

SOUTH AMERICA has not faded from our scene. Indeed, as I expect you will see in individual items elsewhere in this issue, this season's South American Champion Clubs' competition is poised, as I write, for a surprise ending.

Penarol, the trans-continental champions, have missed the boat for a place in the final with their old rivals, Nacional and the Brazilian club Cruzeiro the effective contenders in one semi-final group. In the other group it looks as if Racing and—a big surprise this—Universitario of Lima will have to play-off for a place in the Final. In their semi-final group, River Plate are definitely failures—and River Plate with some six League matches to go are even more doubtful of qualifying for the second stage of the Argentinian Championship than they were when I reported a month ago. Plenty of happenings in South America, but inconclusive enough at the moment for me to do what I have been hoping to do for some time—stay on the American continent but look a bit northwards: to CONCACAF.

CONCACAF, mouthful that it is, is the *short* title for the Congress of the North-Central American and Caribbean Football Confederation—and, save that at the moment two countries are in a state of disputed suspension, it includes all the FIFA member countries in the area. (All eligible countries are equally in the European, South American and Oceania federations but various reasons, mainly of political and non-football differences, limit the affiliations in Africa and Asia.

Affiliation

There are 18 member countries of CONCACAF with, in terms of membership of FIFA, the United States of America the daddy of them all. Their affiliation, whatever their still present problems in the internal organisation of league football at anything like an effective national football league, dates from 1913. After them, in order of seniority, come:

Costa Rica (1929)
Surinam (1929)
Cuba (1932)
Mexico (1932)
Neth. Antilles (1932)
Guatemala (1933)
Haiti (1933)
El Salvador (1938)
Panama (1938)
Canada (1948)
Nicaragua (1950)
Honduras (1951)
Dominican Republic (1958)
Puerto Rico (1960)
Bermuda (1962)
Jamaica (1962)
Trinidad (1963)

To these 18 nations might be added the Bahamas, whose application to affiliate to FIFA awaits consideration, and the newest of countries to gain independence, Guyana, who at the moment remain indirectly affiliated to FIFA through the Football Association (of England). Both those countries have been advised that they are eligible to take part in the Fifth Pan-American Games to be staged in Winnipeg and which cover the South American in addition to the CONCACAF countries.

Suspended

Two of the 18 member countries of FIFA that I have listed, El Salvador and Costa Rica, have been suspended by CONCACAF who then proceeded to notify other Confederations to this effect. This action came to the attention of FIFA and was examined by the Bureau of FIFA's Emergency Committee with some interesting results. Briefly it was established that such suspensions by Continental Confederations have effect only in relation to National Associations themselves in membership of the suspending Confederation. Until and unless FIFA themselves extend such suspensions they do not affect relationships between the suspended associations and other National Associations in membership of FIFA and, even more significantly, they do not affect participation in competitions organised by FIFA, i.e. the World Championship and Pre-Olympic Football Tournament. Thus El Salvador have progressed to the Second Round of the Pre-Olympic Competition. But neither country took part in the Third CONCACAF Championship staged recently in Honduras. A pity perhaps because Costa Rica were the first champions—four years ago when El Salvador were the host country, and both countries had appeared in the two previous Championships.

Nine countries actually took part in the 1963 inaugural championship. The United States and Canada were notable absentees but Mexico, the most important football-playing country in the Confederation, were there, together with Costa Rica and El Salvador as I have mentioned, the Netherlands Antilles (Curacao), Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, and Guatemala.

Two years later—there was a Youth Tournament staged in the intermediate year—six countries turned up at Guatemala for the Second Championship. In the first championship the competing nations had been placed in two groups with the leading two from each group qualifying for places in the semi-finals. It was not altogether satisfactory with some teams never meeting others, and the smaller 1965 entry enabled the Championship to be more fairly contested with each country meeting the five others once. Five of the founder nine nations reappeared and Haiti made a first appearance—not one to set the Caribbean aglow but they did get one point from a drawn match with the Netherlands Antilles. Mexico on the other hand only dropped one point—to Costa Rica, and won the Second Championship with nine points. The five matches Mexico played to win the CONCACAF Championship were sandwiched between four matches in the Sub-Group and four in the Full-Group for World Cup 1966 qualification so that Mexico played no less than 13 competitive international matches between February 28 and May 16, 1965.

Good start

The host country, Guatemala, did very well. They were off to a good start with a three-nil win over Haiti, then—as Mexico were later—they were held to a draw by Costa Rica, the holders. Victories over El Salvador and the Netherland Antilles followed so that Guatemala and Mexico met in the final match of the Championship with identical records of four matches played, three of them won and the fourth drawn. An inspired climax to the Championship, with the one flaw that it was the home country who were the losers—but only by the odd goal in three.

Now, two years later, Guatemala have had their revenge in the Third CONCACAF Championship — two years during which "big brother" Mexico have been afforded the honour of staging the 1968 Olympics and, more to the point, the 1970 World Cup; and made another pleasing appearance in the World Cup final stages.

Absentees

Costa Rica, third in 1965 with six points, and El Salvador, fourth with five points, were notable, enforced absentees from the Third Championship staged in Honduras, but Mexico, Guatemala and Haiti of the 1965 entrants remained; Nicaragua, like the hosts, reappeared after missing the Second Championship, and Trinidad made a first appearance to complete a tidy field of six.

Honduras opened the Championship with a match against the newcomers, Trinidad, and 14,302 spectators at Tegucigalpa saw the home country win one-nil. A day later, a little under 7,000 spectators saw a double-header with first Guatemala, renewing their quest for the Championship they had narrowly lost two years before, beating Haiti—but only by the odd goal (2-1), and secondly, Mexico strolling through to an easy four-nil win over Nicaragua.

Trinidad and Honduras returned to the fray two days later to play against Haiti and Nicaragua respectively. The reappearance of the home country brought the attendance up to 12,000 for this double-header. Haiti's hopes of a first victory in these Championships were dashed—Trinidad 3 Haiti 2, and the home country disappointed by only drawing with Nicaragua who had been so easily beaten by the Mexicans. That this was a lapse by Honduras and not an indication of Mexico's superiority over the field, was confirmed when Haiti did gain that elusive first victory by beating Nicaragua by two goals to one. And that match was followed by one between Mexico and Guatemala—the holders and the runners-up from the Second Championship. And victory this time for Guatemala by one goal to nil. Thus with seven of the 15 championship matches played—roughly the halfway mark—the table was nicely balanced:

	P	W	D	L	F.	A.	P.
Guatemala	**2**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**4**	**1**	**4**
Honduras	2	1	1	0	3	1	3
Mexico	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Trinidad	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Haiti	3	1	0	2	2	3	2
Nicaragua	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

The next double-header featured the home country against Guatemala, followed by Mexico against Trinidad—and the possibility, almost perhaps the prospect, of a win by the home country, Honduras, that would take them to the head of the table, brought out a really fine crowd of 17,813. As it turned out this was the biggest attendance of the Championship—a few hundred more than watched the final pair of matches a week later. They were denied a home victory but at least they were spared a home defeat as they watched a goalless match. If it was goals they had also come to see, they had four of them—all scored by the Mexicans—in the second feature on the evening's bill.

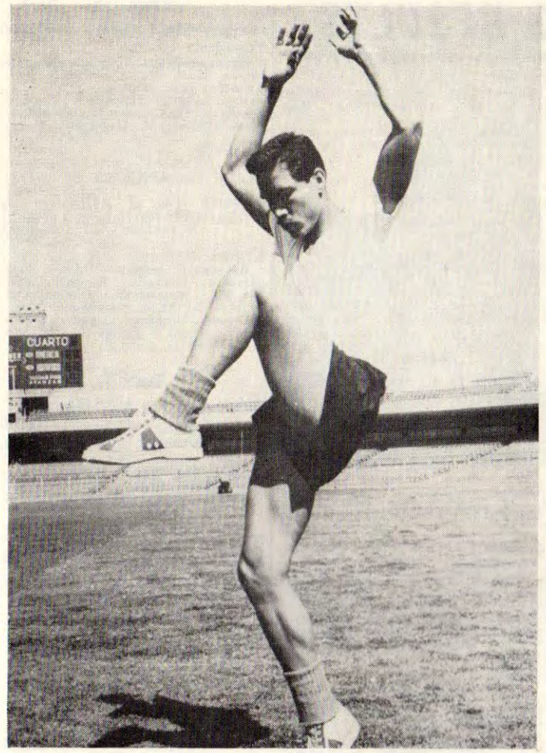
Short of goals

Mexico, however, were short of goals two days later against Haiti but they did score the only goal of the match. Guatemala, however, following with a match against Trinidad, won by two goals to nil to keep their one-point lead and with only Nicaragua, the one entrant without a victory, to play, the Championship seemed nearly theirs. Perhaps this accounted for a drop in interest to watch the next pair of matches—only a little over 6,000 despite the fact that Honduras themselves were playing. They duly won their match against Haiti to bring themselves level with Mexico—six points from four matches.

Guatemala, with seven points from their first four matches, were playing Nicaragua as the first match of the final double-header. It might have kept things in suspense had Mexico and Honduras played first. As it was, Guatemala made certain—two-nil victors, but there was still a contest for second place with Mexico successful by one goal to nil.

Six referees

I have mentioned that of the 18 national associations in CONCACAF, six entered for this Third Championship but I should also mention that the six referees, who between them handled the 15 matches, came from Honduras and Guatemala of the competing countries and, happily, from the USA, Netherlands Antilles, Jamaica and Panama of non-competing ones—giving ten countries with a direct interest.



Jesus Del Muro of Mexico. (A.)

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P.
Guatemala	**5**	**4**	**1**	**0**	**7**	**1**	**9**
Mexico	5	4	0	1	10	1	8
Honduras	5	2	2	1	4	2	6
Trinidad	5	2	0	3	6	10	4
Haiti	5	1	0	4	5	9	2
Nicaragua	5	0	1	4	3	12	1

Mexico were not represented by their World Cup 1966 side but this should not detract from Guatemala's position as the champions of North, Central America and the Caribbean. Mexico have their eyes on 1970, of course, and we can expect them to ring the changes over a number of players—the names of many of whom we shall see but once in a line-up and then no more. On duty in the vital match of the CONCACAF Championship—the team beaten by Guatemala, were Vargas in goal (third string in the World Cup selection to Calderon and Carbajal), Pena, the national team captain, and Jesus del Muro—both World Cup players. Making up the defence were newcomers, Pulido, Alejandres and Cuenca. In the forward line, Bustos and Pereda have played in recent Full Internationals—against Switzerland and the USSR for instance, but Prado, young Estrada and Cerda Canela are new names to me. They may not be in 1970....

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CLASSIFIED RESULTS

JANUARY 26

Uruguay (1) **2** (Oyarbide, Rocha pen.) 16,718
Chile (2) **2** (Gallardo, Marcos)
Uruguay: Bazzano; Martinez, Varela; Montero, Cincunegui, Caetano; Oyarbide, Vera, Rocha, Silva, Urruzmendi.
Chile: Olivares; Adriozola, Cruz; Hodge, Figueroa, Herrera; Araya, Prieto, Gallardo, Marcos, Castro.

JANUARY 28

Argentina (1) **2** (Sarnari 2) 14,352
Chile (0) **0**
Argentina: Roma; Calics, Marzolini; Acevedo, Albrecht, Ovejero; Bernao, Gonzalez, Artime, Sarnari, Mas.
Chile: Olivares; Adriozola, Cruz; Hodge, Figueroa, Herrera; Araya, Prieto, Gallardo, Marcos, Castro.

Venezuela (0) **3** (Ravelo 2, Santana) 14,352
Bolivia (0) **0**
Venezuela: Colmenares; Motta, Freddy; Zarzalejo, Oscar Gonzalez, Mendoza; Naranjo, Tortolero, Ravelo, Scovino (Gala), Santana.
Bolivia: Issa (Cobo); Agreda, Quiroga; Herbas, Zabalaga, Camacho; Garcia, Blacut (Urdininea), Flores, Vargas, Quinteros (Sanchez).

JANUARY 29

Uruguay (0) **2** (Urruzmendi 2)
Paraguay (0) **0** 12,431
Uruguay: Mazurkiewicz; Baeza (Carlos Paz), Varela; Castillo (Techera), Cincunegui, Mujica; Domingo Perez, Rocha, Vera, Salva, Urruzmendi.
Paraguay: Yudisc; Colman, Sergio Rojas (Martinez); Gonzalez, Patino, Apodaca (Delgadillo); Miranda, Juan Carlos Rojas, Valdes, Del Puerto (Riveros), Mora.

FEBRUARY 1

Turkey (0) **0** 35,000
Spain (0) **0**
Turkey: Ali; Talat, Ercan; Yilmaz, Fehmi, Yusuf; Seref, Nevzat, Ogun, Fevzi, Faruk.
Spain: Iribar; Sanchis, Reija; Paquito, Gallego, Violeta; Amancio, Pirri, Grosso, Valasquez, Jose Maria.

Bolovia (0) **0** 360
Chile (0) **0**
Bolivia: Isasa; Quiroga, Zabalaga; Camacho, Jesus Herbas, Agreda; Sanchez, Blacut, Garcia, Jaime Herbas, Cortes.
Chile: Olivares; Adriozola, Cruz; Hodge, Figueroa, Herrera; Araya, Prieto, Gallardo, Marcos, Castro.

Paraguay (4) **5** (Rojas 2, Mora, Colman, Gonzalez) 360
Venezuela (2) **3** (Mendoza, Santana, Ravelo)
Paraguay: Duis; Colman, Miranda; Patino, Bobadilla, Garay; Rojas, Apodaca, Valdes, Gonzalez (A.), Mora.
Venezuela: Colmenares; Motta, Nallie; Gonzalez (G.), Zarzaleio, Mendoza; Naranjo, Tortolero, Gala, Ravelo, Santana.

MARCH 8

Greece (1) **1** (Sideris) 18,000
Rumania (1) **2** (Ionescu 2)
Greece: Iconomopoulos; Plessas, Sofianides; Polychroniou, Lanteroglou, Sourpis; Vassiliou, Sideris, Alexiadis, Youtousos, Botinos.
Rumania: Constantinescu; Samareanu, Mocanu; Ghergeli, Nunweiler III, Dan Coe; Pircalab, Fratila, Ionescu (I.), Dobrin, Lucescu.

MARCH 22

Cyprus (0) **0** 11,105
Italy (0) **2** (Domenghini, Facchetti)
Cyprus: Vanavas; Panikos, Kostas; Toffis, Gattos, Plutis; Droscios, Kostakis, Cristallis, Kitteris, Stylianou.
Italy: Sarti; Burgnich, Facchetti; Lodetti, Guarneri, Picchi; Domenghini, Rivera, Cappellini, Juliano, Corso.

France (0) **1** (Dogliani) 20,000
Rumania (1) **2** (Fratila, Dridea)
France: Ion; Laraud, Cardiet; Dogliani, Piumi, Provelli; Blanchet, Lech, Gondet, Suaudeau, Loubet.
Rumania: Ionescu; Samareanu, Mocanu; Ghergeli, Nunweiler III, Dimitriu; Lucescu, Fratila, Dridea, Dobrin, Avram.

West Germany (0) **1** (Heynckes) 65,000
Bulgaria (0) **0**
West Germany: Maier; Patzke, Hottges; Netzer, Schulz (Fichtel), Weber; Kramer, Herrmann, Heynckes, Overath, Lohr.
Bulgaria: Simeonov; Chalamanov, Gaganelov; Penev, Dimitrov, Jetchev; Jekov, Bonev, Asparoukhov, Jakimov, Dermendjiev.

MARCH 26

Italy (0) **1** (Domenghini) 80,000
Portugal (1) **1** (Eusebio pen.)
Italy: Sarti; Nardin, Facchetti; Lodetti, Guarneri, Picchi; Rivera (Domenghini), Mazzola, Riva (Cappellini), Bulgarelli, Corso.
Portugal: Americo; Morais, Hilario; Jaime Graca, Carlos, Raul; Jose Augusto, Eusebio, Jorge, Coluna (Campos), Simoes.

APRIL 5

East Germany (0) **4** (Vogel, Frenzel 3) 40,000
Holland (2) **3** (Keizer 2, Mulder)
East Germany: Weigang; Fraessdorf, Geisler; Pankau, Walter, Koerner; Ducke, Noeldner, Frenzel, Erler, Vogel.
Holland: Van Leeuwen; Suurbier, Schrijvers; Kemper, Pijs, Groot; De Zoete, Swart, Mulder, Nuninga, Keizer.

APRIL 9

West Germany (2) **6** (Muller 4, Lohr 2) 30,000
Albania (0) **0**
West Germany: Tilkowski; Patzke, Hottges; Beckenbauer, Schulz, Weber; Dorfel (B.), Ulsass, Muller (G.), Overath, Lohr.
Albania: Yanku; Frasheri, Vaso; Kazanhi, Mema, Ragami; Xhacka, Hyka, Pano, Bizi, Ishka.

APRIL 12

Northern Ireland (0) **0** 17,000
Wales (0) **0**
N. Ireland: McKenzie; Craig, Elder; Stewart, Neill, Nicholson; Welsh, Trainor, Dougan, Bruce, Clements.
Wales: Millington; Thomas, Williams (G.); Jarvis, James, Hole; Rees, Vernon, Davies, Durban, Pring.

APRIL 15

Belgium (1) **1** (Israel o.g.) 50,000
Holland (0) **0**
Belgium: Boone; Heylens, Bohez; Bettens, Hanon, Sulon (A.); Thio, Stockman, Van Himst, Jurion, Puis.
Holland: Doesburg; Flinkenveugel, Eykenbrock; Kemper, Israel, Muller; Swart, Groot, Mulder, Nuninga, Keizer.

England (0) **2** (Charlton J., Hurst) 100,000
Scotland (1) **3** (Law, Lennox, McCalliog)
England: Banks; Cohen, Wilson; Stiles, Charlton (J.), Moore; Ball, Greaves, Charlton (R.), Hurst, Peters.
Scotland: Simpson; Gemmell, McCreadie; Greig, McKinnon, Baxter; Wallace, Bremner, McCalliog, Law, Lennox.

APRIL 16

Luxembourg (0) **0** 8,000
Poland (0) **0**
Luxembourg: Hoffmann; Kuffer, Jeitz; Ewen, Hoffstetter, Konter; Schmit, Klein, Pilot, Leonhard, Dublin.
Poland: Kornerk; Strazalkowski, Gmoch; Ozlislo, Anczok, Schmidt; Szoltysik, Hausner, Musialek, Lubanski, Jarosik.

APRIL 22

Hungary (1) **1** (Bene) 40,000
Yugoslavia (0) **0**
Hungary: Tamas; Kaposzta, Meszoly; Ihasz, Szucs, Varga; Molnar, Bene, Albert, Rakosi, Farkas.
Yugoslavia: Pantelic; Fazlagic, Razcovic; Danjanovic, Brncic, Holcer; Melic, Becejac, Hasanagic, Lamza, Dzajic.

APRIL 23

Rumania (3) **7** (Dimitriu 3, Ionescu 2, Martinovic, Lucescu) 20,000
Cyprus (0) **0**
Rumania: Ionescu (M.); Popa, Mocanu; Ghergeli, Nunweiler III, Nicolao; Martinovic, Dimitriu II, Ionescu (I.), Dobrin, Lucescu.
Cyprus: Vanavas; Iacavou, Kostas; Toffis, Plutis, Kostakis; Droscios, Kitteris, Pieris, Cristallis, Stylianou.

MAY 3

Switzerland (1) **1** (Odermatt) 22,000
Czechoslovakia (1) **2** (Geleta, Jokl)
Switzerland: Barlie; Fuhrer, Pfirter; Odermatt, Tacchella, Stocker; Vuilleumier (Frigerio), Blattler, Kunzli, Durr, Quentin.
Czechoslovakia: Viktor; Lala, Majernik; Geleta, Popluhar, Dobias (Taborsky); Vesely, Szikora (Jokl), Adamec, Kuna, Kabat.

Yugoslavia (0) **1** (Skoblar) 50,000
West Germany (0) **0**
Yugoslavia: Pantelic; Fazlagic, Jusufi; Brncic, Rasovic, Holcer; Melic, Becejac, Hasanagic, Skoblar, Dzajic.
West Germany: Maier; Patzke, Fichtel; Vogts, Schulz, Beckenbauer; Held, Kuppers, Muller, Overath, Lohr.

MAY 10

Scotland (0) **0** 53,000
Russia (2) **2** (Gemmell o.g., Medvid)
Scotland: Simpson; Gemmell, McCreadie; Clark, McNeill, Baxter; Johnstone, McLintock, McCalliog, Law (Wallace), Lennox.

Jimmy Greaves in action for England during the international against Austria in Vienna. The Austrian player disputing possession is Glechner. (A.)

Russia: Yashin; Afonin, Danilov; Voronin, Shesternev, Khurtsilava; Chislenko, Medvid, Streltzov, Sabo, Malafeev.

Hungary (2) **2** (Meszoly pen., Farkas) 25,000
Holland (0) **1** (Suurbier)
Hungary: Tamas; Matrai, Ihasz; Gorocs, Meszoly, Szucs; Molnar, Bene, Albert, Farkas, Rakosi.
Holland: Leenwen (Doesburg); Suurbier, Veldhoen; Eykenbrock, Israel, Muller; Bergholtz, Groot, Nuninga, Mulder, Keizer.

Finland (1) **1** (Peltonen) 14,038
Greece (1) **1** (Haitas)
Finland: Halme; Aho, Kautonen; Kanerva, Numminen, Maekelae; Maekipaeae, Nuoranen, Tolsa, Lindholm, Peltonen.
Greece: Iconomopoulos; Plessas, Sofianides; Loukanides, Zanderouglou, Polychroniou; Haitas, Youtzose, Papaioannou, Domazos, Botinos.

MAY 14

Albania (0) **0** 35,000
Yugoslavia (1) **2** (Zambata 2)
Albania: Yankou; Francheri, Taganu; Vasso, Mema, Bezi; Karamchie, Kchaka, Hika, Pano, Ichka.
Yugoslavia: Knezevic; Fazlagic, Brncic; Becejac, Rasovic, Holcer; Melic, Nadoveza, Zambata, Lamza, Dzajic.

MAY 17

Sweden (0) **0** 7,100
East Germany (0) **1** (Noldner)
Sweden: Petterson; Selander, Nordquist; Bjorkland, Axelsson, Nilden; Svensson, Magnusson, Danielsson, Simonsson, Turesson.
East Germany: Croy; Fraessdorf, Geisler; Bransch, Walter, Irmscher; Ducke, Noldner, Frenzel, Koerner, Lowe.

MAY 21

Eire (0) **0** 9,000
Czechoslovakia (2) **2** (Finucane o.g., Masny)
Eire: Kelly; Foley, Dempsey; Finucane, Hurley, Meagan; Gallagher, McEvoy, Treacy, Dunphy, Conmy.
Czechoslovakia: Viktor; Lala, Majernik; Taborsky, Popluhar, Geleta; Szikora, Masny, Kvasnak, Adamec, Kabat.

Poland (2) **3** (Lubanski 2, Szoltysik) 70,000
Belgium (0) **1** (Puis)
Poland: Kornek; Kowalski, Strzalkowski; Szmidt, Gmoch, Anczok; Sadek, Lubanski, Szoltysik, Suski, Liberda.
Belgium: Nicolay; Heylens, Bohez; Van Moer, Sulon (A.), Plaskie; Stockman, Bettens, Van Himst, Jurion, Puis.

MAY 24

Switzerland (3) **7** (Kunzli 2, Quentin 2, Blattler 2, Odermatt) 23,000
Rumania (0) **1** (Dobrin)
Switzerland: Kunz; Pfirter, Perroud; Odermatt, Tacchella, Mochaud; Kunzli, Bani, Blattler, Durr, Quentin.
Rumania: Ionescu (Dtacu); Popæ, Mocanu; Ghergheli, Nunweiler III, Dimitriu; Pircalab, Dridea, Ion Ionescu, Dobrin, Lecescu.

England (0) **2** (Greaves, Hunt) 97,500
Spain (0) **0**
England: Bonetti; Cohen, Newton; Mullery, Labone, Moore; Ball, Greaves, Hurst, Hunt, Hollins.
Spain: Iribar; Sanchis, Reija; Violeta, Gallego, Glaria; Amancio, Pirri, Grosso, Jose Maria, Gento.

MAY 25

Denmark (0) **0** 35,200
Hungary (1) **2** (Sandvad o.g., Bene)
Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen (J.), Boel; Sandvad, Worbye, Bjerre; Laudrup, Moller, Sondergaard, Hansen (S.), Le Fevre.
Hungary: Tamas; Matrai, Ihasz; Nagy (I.), Meszoly, Szucs; Molnar, Bene, Albert, Farkas, Rakosi.

Sweden pictured before their recent friendly against East Germany. Left to right: Agne Simonsson, Roney Pettersson, Hans Selander, Kurt Axelsson, Bjorn Nordqvist, Rolf Bjor klund, Jim Nilden, Tommy Svensson, Roger Magnusson, Inge Danielsson, Tom Turesson. (M.)

MAY 28

Austria (0) **0** 55,000
England (1) **1** (Ball)
Austria: Pichler; Wartusch, Fak; Eschlmuller, Glechner, Sturmberger; Kogelberger, Wolny, Sieber, Schmidt, Parits.
England: Bonetti; Newton, Wilson; Mullery, Labone, Moore; Ball, Greaves, Hurst, Hunt, Hunter.

MAY 31

Spain (0) **2** (Grosso, Gento) 40,000
Turkey (0) **0**
Spain: Iribar; Sanchis, Reija; Paquito, Gallego, Glaria; Ufarte, Adelardo, Grosso, Jose Maria, Gento.
Turkey: Ali; Sukru, Talat; Seref, Fehmi, Yalmaz; Ayghan, Fevzi, Ergun, Ogun, Faruk.

JUNE 1

Sweden (0) **1** (Svensson) 49,689
Portugal (1) **1** (Pinto)
Sweden: Petterson; Selander, Bjorklund; Nilden, Axelsson, Nordquist; Magnusson, Turesson, Simonsson, Svensson, Persson.
Portugal: Americo; Morais, Hilario; Jaime Graca, Raul, Carlos; Jose Augusto, Eusebio, Serafin, Pinto, Peres.

JUNE 3

France (2) **2** (Gondet, Simon) 25,000
Russia (1) **4** (Chislenko 2, Byshevetz, Streltzov)
France: Eon; de Michele, Cardiet; Simon, le Chenadec, Piumi; Blanchet, Guy, Gondet (Bonnell), Deloffre, Loubet.
Russia: Yashin; Afonin, Lenev; Voronin, Shesternev, Sosnikin; Medvid, Chislenko, Streltzov, Sabo, Byshevetz.

JUNE 4

Denmark (0) **1** (Bjerre) 23,000
East Germany (1) **1** (Lowe)
Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen (J.), Boel; Sandvad, Worbye, Bjerre; Laudrup, Moller, Sondergaard, Hansen (S.), Le Fevre.
East Germany: Croy; Fraessdorf, Geisler; Bransch, Walter, Irmscher; Ducke (R.), Noeldner, Frenzel, Koerner, Lowe.

JUNE 8

Norway (1) **1** (Iversen) 31,000
Portugal (1) **2** (Eusebio 2)
Norway: Kaspersen; Mathiesen, Eggen; Bornoe, Johansen (R.), Thorsen; Sunde, Iversen, Berg, Nilsen (O.), Eriksen (L.).
Portugal: Americo; Morais, Hilario; Jaime Graca, Raul, Jose Carlos; Jose Augusto, Eusebio, Jose Maria, Pinto, Esteval.

JUNE 10

Russia (3) **4** (Malafeev, Byshevetz, Chislenko, Streltzov) 103,000
Austria (1) **3** (Hof, Wolny, Sieber)
Russia: Yashin; Afonin, Lenev; Voronin, Shesternev, Khurtsilava; Chislenko, Sabo, Streltzov, Malafeev, Byshevetz.
Austria: Pichler; Wartusch, Fak; Eschmuller, Glechner, Sturmberger; Flogel, Hof, Wolny, Sieber, Hormayer.

JUNE 11

Sweden (0) **0** 24,271
Bulgaria (1) **2** (Jekov, Dermendjiev)
Sweden: Pettersson; Selander, Bjorklund; Nilden, Axelsson, Nordquist; Danielsson, Turesson, Simonsson, Svensson, Persson.
Bulgaria: Simeonov; Chalamanov, Gaganelov; Bonev, Dimitrov, Jetchev; Popov, Penev, Jekov, Yakimov, Dermendjiev.

JUNE 18

Czechoslovakia (1) **3** (Adamec 2, Jurkanin) 20,000
Turkey (0) **0**
Czechoslovakia: Victor; Lala, Majernik; Taborsky, Popluhar, Geleta; Kvasnak, Vasely (B.), Jurkanin, Adamec, Kabat.
Turkey: Ali; Sukru, Talat; Tehmi, Huesevin, Abdullah; Seref, Nevzat, Oquen, Fevzi, Erquen.

JUNE 25

Rumania (0) **0** 70,000
Italy (0) **1** (Bertini)
Rumania: Raducanu; Lupescu, Mocanu; Ghergeli, Nunweiler III, Borbu; Lucescu, Dimitriu, Ionescu, Nastanaila, Nunweiler VI.
Italy: Albertosi; Gori, Facchetti; Bertini, Guarneri, Picchi; Rivera, Juliano, Zigoni, Bulgarelli, Pascutti.

Denmark (0) **1** (Bjerre pen.) 52,000
Sweden (0) **1** (Hansen o.g.)
Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen, Boel; Sandvad, Worbye, Bjerre; Laudrup, Dyreborg, Sondergaard, Smidt-Hansen, Le Fevre.
Sweden: Larssen; Selander, Karlsson; Olsson, Axelsson, Nordquist; Svensson, Danielsson, Eriksson, Simonsson, Turesson.

JUNE 29

Norway (0) **0** 20,000
Bulgaria (0) **0**
Norway: Kaspersen; Mathiesen, Eggen; Bornoe, Johansen, Petersen; Sunde, Iversen, Berg, Nilsen (O.), Hasund.
Bulgaria: Simeonov; Chalamanov, Gaganelov; Bonev, Dimitrov, Penev; Schotzshev, Mitkov, Jekov, Yakimov, Dermendjiev.

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Man in the Middle's Views . . . . . by SYDNEY CLARKSON

FOOTBALL FINDS MANY FRIENDS

IT was a thrill some two years ago for the Dutch newsagent and myself to see my own photograph in the July issue of WORLD SOCCER **in the cheese market town of Alkmeer, and also to see a copy of the August monthly next day in Amsterdam. Possibly these words may be read by me in print in early August in Berne, Bonn or Bologna.**

One mentions these places to show the European coverage of our journal and to indicate my route this summer on my ninth consecutive Continental tour. Whilst on these journeys there is the need for carnets, coupons and currency of the country, I have also a ready access to and contact with the native people in my fondness for football.

Let me illustrate from my tour in World Cup year last summer to Yugoslavia. A group of 20 German youths and myself were listening in Villach (Austria) to a small transistor set that was broadcasting the current semi-final West Germany versus Russia. There was no need for translation when two goals were scored by the Germans and a place was assured for them in the Final. But complexions changed when the Russians pulled back a goal through left-winger Porkujan. Could the German side hang on? It caused quite a laugh when I pulled out my constant companion — my referee's whistle and invited a German to blow, in Austria, to finish the game at Everton. The game finished satisfactorily for the large group of touring Germans going back to Frankfurt, but there was a friendly atmosphere in the house through the common interest of football.

Another year in Broek-in Waterland, a pretty hamlet about six miles north of Amsterdam, I mentioned to the host that I would like to meet Leo Horn, the international referee, who I knew lived near Marlem, about 20 miles away. Imagine my surprise when I was told an hour later that the famous ref, was away hunting for the week-end but would speak to me over the telephone — which he did — and later followed up by sending me, for my "Football Museum", his autograph and signed pictures. Why did the Dutch show their usual kindness to me in this way? Perhaps it made a difference that the host himself, who made the two telephone calls across the country (quite free), was himself a referee during the winter in the local youth leagues!

One of my calling places in Italy is the town on the via Emilia of Parma. There in the Citadella camping ground one may always see a game of football going on upon the dusty sports ground played by young men in sandals or mostly in bare feet. And can they kick that plastic ball! Actually they play most sportingly in the early evening of an August Italian summer and then wash their feet in a drinking fountain base that flows conveniently by. On mentioning to the unofficial organiser (or owner of the ball) that I was an English referee, he invited me another time to step on to the pitch and take charge. A trying tussle with the traffic of Bologna on a solo scooter alone had made me a little diffident in this particular time. But I am ready on this my sixth visit to Italy. In the season in England I read the laws of football weekly in English and Italian. The uplifted arm for an indirect free-kick (*il calcio di punizione indiretto* to the Italians) is understood internationally. Perhaps the FIFA could devise a series of hand signals for all contingencies in the game as a gesture towards uniform interpretation?

Italy is, of course, the land that shows partisanship to an exuberant degree. No half-measures about the Latin. Many a time on my route south last year I twitted petrol pump attendants about their national team beaten *per i piccoli cinesi* (the Koreans, of course). "Too much money for club games; little enthusiasm for the national side" was the common verdict, with a characteristic universal sign between finger and thumb to indicate the handling of paper money.

But even in the close season of Italian football, the tourist can see in windows of shops the elaborate trinkets, badges, stickers and pennants to show support of the big city clubs, most of whom have also an effigy — a black bull for Torino, a zebra for Juventus, etc.

Youngsters buy coloured pictures of the chief players as our lads buy foreign stamps. Through looking in the album of a boy, Nardio of Faenza, I now know all the colours of the Italian teams in Series A (their First Division). He has mounted in correct spaces some 600 players in team colours, though his nearest big ground is the stadium in via Testoni at Bologna, 30 miles away, which he, being only 10 years old, has yet to visit.

Poster

Staying one night only in the Flanders city of Lille, my eye was taken by an attractive poster for a friendly game between the town of Leewarden in north of the Netherlands, and Lille. It had a large football and the attractive lily (fleur-de-lis) badge of the textile town. The friendly game was to be played the following evening at eight o'clock, but I was due to cross from Boulogne early in the day. Hearing of my interest a café proprietor immediately took down the poster and gave it to me as a souvenir, together with a Continental kiss on both the cheeks.

But what about my plans for this summer? Well, instead of flying past the 18 playing pitches on the ring road by Utrecht, I may have time to enquire about their upkeep. My projected overnight stay in Basle with friends could this year entail a call upon civil engineer Gottfried Dienst, who was honoured with the World Cup Final. This "travesty of a referee" has since handled the European Cup game between Real and Inter, in March of this year before a crowd of 125,000 people.

Since a night in Milan in the San Siro district is in the tour, it will be difficult to avoid going round to the great stadium, home of the two Milan clubs. Some years ago, in great trepidation, I crossed the Alps from France on a moped and travelled past Turin's headquarters in the main street, Vitt. Emanuele. A call in the offices of the Juventus club might well be profitable, from a football point of view.

Well, there it is. Futbal, Fusball, Calcio, call it what you like. The game is global. The interest is not confined to Europe. But if the readers of this magazine are as fortunate as I am in being able to make a Continental tour, why not capitalise on the game and use the sport as another passport in making interesting contacts and even friends. It can be done. I've done it!

JOHN STONE—from page 32

now have a tremendously powerful team of backroom staff, with manager Scot Symon, assistant manager Dave White — the man who steered Clyde to third place in the First Division last term — and coach Bobby Seith, winner of an FA Cup medal with Burnley, and a stalwart with Dundee for many seasons.

It is difficult, even this early in the season, envisaging any other provincial sides keeping pace with the big two. Aberdeen seem likeliest candidates if there is to be a shock, for Eddie Turnbull, one of the famous five Hibs' forwards of the 1950s, has worked wonders in a short time at Pittodrie.

Several others will be hoping to copy Turnbull's lead, for there are many new faces at the manager's helm this term.

Notable among them are George Farm, the ex-Blackpool goalkeeper who managed Queen of the South, then took Raith Rovers back to Division I.

He has moved to Dunfermline in succession to Willie Cunningham, the former Irish international full-back.

White, of course, has left Clyde for Ibrox, and been replaced by Archie Wright, who did so well in a short spell with Airdrie. Airdrie, in turn, have appointed their former full-back Ralph Collins, who made his name as a player with Kilmarnock, as part-time boss.

But the man all Scotland will want to see do well, I'm sure, is Tommy Walker, one of the game's greatest gentlemen.

It still seems inconceivable that Tommy Walker of the pleasant manner, plus-fours, etc., is not managing Hearts. However, having split with the Tynecastle club, and following a short administrative stay with Dunfermline, he has moved over to Raith Rovers where, although he has now said goodbye to his 50th birthday some time since, he plans to be a track-suit boss.

His will be a tough job keeping the Fifers in the First Division, but no man has more experience for the task in hand. No man will deserve the congratulations forthcoming at the end of the season if he succeeds.

Pak Doo Ik

The name is familiar . . . but not the face!

Place in History assured

by

ISTVAN SOMOS

PAK DOO IK achieved world fame on July 16, 1966. It is easy to be precise and pinpoint the exact day when this diminutive Asian footballer captured the headlines.

For it was Pak Doo Ik who scored the goal, for North Korea, that eliminated Italy from the 1966 World Cup. It was a goal that shattered and humiliated Italy—and the 17,000-plus spectators at Middlesbrough that July evening will never forget it.

Nor will they forget Pak Doo Ik, a faceless member of a North Korean team in which each player appeared, from the terraces and stands at least, the exact replica of his colleagues.

The only method of differentiation was to acquaint oneself with each player's particular style and characteristics but even this, at times, was an impossible task.

It is doubtful, nay improbable, that football fans in Britain would be able to recognise Pak Doo Ik either in person or from a picture but nevertheless his place in soccer history is assured.

The North Koreans arrived in England for the World Cup finals a completely unknown quantity. They certainly surprised everybody with the quality of their play (remember they led Portugal 3-0 in the quarter-final before losing 5-3) and splendid skill despite a lack of physical attributes.

But the personality of the Koreans was a collective one and individuals rarely stood out. So let us get acquainted with the career of Pak Doo Ik.

He started to play football at the age of eleven and the experts soon recognised his exceptional ability. Because of this he progressed rapidly and quickly came to the forefront.

He has been named the "best player in Korea" and these words are not without reason. Pak Doo Ik distinguishes himself with such human and sporting qualities which characterise the first-class players.

He is a modest and straightforward character in personal life and this calm personality is evident in his play. He has never been sent off and has never been charged with rough play.

Though his opponents frequently adopt tough tactics against him he has never been known to retaliate. In addition he displays a high degree of technique and tactics.

He never drinks alcohol nor smokes and is an inspirational figure with an indefatigable spirit.

When he arrived in England as a member of the Korean People's Republic team his only aim was to learn and gain experience from the "great ones".

Who would have thought at that time that Pak Doo Ik would play four matches in England. Moreover that in the decisive match, which took Korea into second place in Group IV, that he would succeed in breaking the *catenaccio*, the "concrete defence" of the Italians in scoring the only goal of the match?

How did he succeed? He told me:

"Forty-two minutes were gone in the first half with just three minutes remaining of the first half of this nerve-racking fight when Ha Jung Won passed me an excellent ball.

"I was standing—as during the whole match—on the right side of the penalty box, among the Italian defenders, my back turned to the goal.

"Thus, I could not even think of being able to shoot. At the same time I was aware of the fact that, if I took over the ball, they would surely tackle me.

"In a split second I made up my mind. Playing a trick on them, I ran to take the ball, but let it go. Two Italian defenders were, as I expected, following me.

"Then I suddenly turned back, received the ball and from just inside the penalty area I succeeded in scoring the goal, shooting past Albertosi."

The world's press praised Pak Doo Ik's great achievement and excellent goal. A French sports paper commented that he was one of the best ten forwards in Group IV.

Pak Doo Ik is 24 years of age and although his name is not, as yet, as widely known as that of Eusebio and Pelé, his future is very bright indeed.

Football in North Korea receives little if any publicity outside Asia and consequently one tends to dismiss the Orient as a non-soccer region.

Korea's considerable efforts in the World Cup should have proved to all and sundry that Asia is capable of producing footballers of world class. There is no telling just how good the little Koreans might be if given the chance of regular matches against the might of Europe and South America.

Pak Doo Ik personifies the type of players produced in this vast and under-rated area. He is versatile, industrious, determined and, above all, amazingly fit.

Ironically at one stage it appeared as though he would miss the finals. He was dropped after North Korea's first qualifying match against Australia.

But the national coach, Myung Re Hyun, initiated his recall to the national squad and Pak Doo Ik never looked back. Neither, in fact, did North Korea.

Pak Doo Ik, the man who scored the goal for North Korea that knocked Italy out of the 1966 World Cup. (I.S.I.)

How to overcome Catenaccio

by **Eric Batty**

SINCE the widespread acceptance of *catenaccio* and the cult of the *libero*, football everywhere has been threatened by stalemate. Few people really like it, even fans and officials of weak teams who would be beaten if they played an open game would prefer to see the old style football, and for the masses whose support keeps the game alive there can be no doubt. We must develop an effective counter to *catenaccio* and the *libero* or the game will lose its popular appeal.

Already we have seen signs that many teams are prepared to throw defenders upfield, but this has happened only on certain occasions. We can see attacking full-backs, playing in close support of their spearheads, and in the more advanced teams we can see shooting chances created for them. We can also see tall defenders sent upfield for set-piece attacks as when centre-halves move up into the enemy goalmouth for corners and free-kicks.

This willingness to reinforce the attack temporarily is vital for without support the three (or four) full-time strikers will not be able to score goals regularly against seven- and eight-man defences. We can assume, however, that many teams are prepared to try and break the deadlock. The question is ... "How?"

Before answering this question it will be as well to trace the development of defensive tactics from WM to the modern *catenaccio*, for WM and 4-2-4 were not discarded without reason. Understanding the weaknesses which were inherent in the stopper game (WM) and 4-2-4, will lead us immediately to the weakness of the modern defence despite its apparently impregnable appearance.

There can be no doubt that the stopper centre-half introduced by Arsenal had a similar appearance of impregnability. While opponents persisted in playing long, high passes down the middle and from the wings, the stopper remained calm and supreme. Meeting this type of attack was the role for which the stopper was cast.

Once the game realised that playing the ball up to the feet of the centre-forward would tempt the stopper out, it soon became clear that the WM system would go. The inherent weakness in the stopper centre-half game stemmed from the fact that the stopper was in fact doing two jobs:

(1) he was marking the opposing centre-forward
(2) he was covering the central approach to goal (the central zone).

As long as the old-style tank centre-forward lay well upfield in the centre, the stopper was happy and effective. But when the centre-forward moved out of the central zone, the stopper was forced to ask himself a question —should he go out of the central zone to mark the centre-forward or should he stand away from his opponent to cover the zone?

Whatever the centre-half did a good opponent would prove him wrong. If he went with the centre-forward out to the flanks or forward into midfield, the enemy responded by putting the ball into the space behind him and sending another player "in". But if the centre-half preferred to let the centre-forward go free, then the ball was quickly transferred to him. Now one man could not combine the two roles: he could not mark the centre-forward (tight) and cover the central zone.

This it was decided was a job for two players, and the dual centre-half game incorporated in 4-2-4 was born.

For a while it seemed that 4-2-4 was the answer, but soon it became clear that following the original line of thought the answer was to play with two centre-forwards. This was also an essential part of 4-2-4—two centre-forwards and two centre-halves—and it gave balance between defence and attack. Defending with six players and attacking with six, the results of matches between two 4-2-4 playing teams hinged on the old rule —which team has the better (more skilful) players?

Defensive

Very soon, however, the experts took another critical look at the defensive set-up, and once more it was realised that against two centre-forwards who moved the back line of four could be put in trouble. If one of the central strikers moved away—going square to the sidelines or withdrawing into midfield—the man marking him had to choose: tight-marking or zone? And if both centre-forwards moved, then either one or both "got free" and could be used, or they created space in the centre and pulled away the cover.

Two centre-halves are not enough against two centre-forwards, because between them they have to mark two opponents AND cover the central zone. This is three men's work, and with this realisation came the Italian game—based on two stoppers and a free (centre) back.

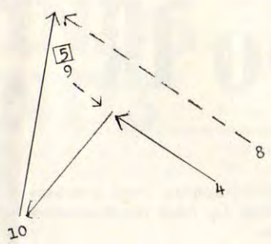
Now for the first time the duties of the defenders became clear. The full-backs marked the wingers; the stoppers marked the central strikers, and with the *libero* giving immediate cover to each defender in turn they were able to concentrate completely on their opponent. Now the marking could be really tight and as a result the tackling became quicker and more effective. Where once the full-back was forced to lay away from his winger, because he had also to cover the centre, now he could afford to concentrate completely on the winger. The free-back provided all the cover that was necessary. The back was "free" to play his winger out of the game.

With time and space denied them, the front players became considerably less effective. Everywhere they went, their opponent followed and this was never illustrated better than in the European Cup Final between Real Madrid and Internazionale in Vienna.

Right at the start of the game Inter lined up with Suarez (10) and Corso (11) withdrawn into midfield. They lined up for the start in positions once taken up by the old left-half and the old attacking centre-half — but they appeared to have a left-winger for Facchetti (3) stood on the half-way line, in the position once occupied by the old-style left-winger. Facchetti was there to mark the Real right-winger Amancio, marking him (tight) even before the game began.

On Inter's other flank, right-back Burgnich was also on the half-way line, taking up a similar position against Gento, the Real left-winger. If this was not clear enough there were several situations which developed in that game which clearly demonstrated that the defenders were

A



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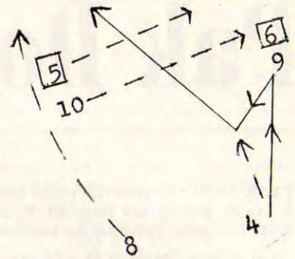


concentrating solely against their immediate opponent. Perhaps the best example came when Gento (in possession) and Amancio ran across each other's path.

Out on the left wing Gento had the ball at his feet. Facing him a yard away was Burgnich, balanced to go either way and standing off awaiting Gento's move. Meanwhile Amancio was racing across field from right to left (followed by Facchetti). Amancio ran through the space between Gento and Burgnich, and Facchetti following his man didn't even glance at Gento or the ball.

To the Italian defenders this was an old trick, often demonstrated by Matthews and Taylor for Blackpool and many others. Amancio feints to take the ball and moves left—Burgnich turns to follow the ball, and Gento has moved away with the ball still in his possession.

Blinked

This time Burgnich and Facchetti never even blinked. Facchetti followed Amancio and Burgnich followed Gento. They were playing the new defensive game—following their man and ignoring the ball completely.

No longer do the Italian defenders have two jobs. They have only one—to tight mark—and this freedom allows them to concentrate on their purpose realistically and ruthlessly.

If we accept this new concept in defence we can take advantage of this tight marking. Defenders can either mark tight, cover zones or attempt to dabble in both. While they attempted to mark and cover (WM) they could be drawn and exposed, but now defenders can be drawn but not exposed because the *libero* is covering their zone. This is the theory.

Now instead of complaining that defensive football is diabolical we must give our energies to finding a way through it. It can be done—we can discredit the *libero*, for if we examine his duties closely we will see that he also has a dual role. If we expose this duality the *libero* will be found wanting.

When *catenaccio* was first introduced the *libero* had a simple task. He had to take over the covering duties of the stopper centre-half to leave him free to tight mark. Now when the centre-forward moved to the wing or withdrew, the stopper went with him and the *libero* covered. Now all the headers and flicks (by the centre-forward) into the space behind the centre-half were nullified. They all went to the *libero*.

Slowly a handful of teams realised that against tight-marking the only effective answer was to put players "in" from behind. Full-backs and wing-halves began to probe along the touch-lines; wing-halves and withdrawn inside-forwards began to probe through the centre. They were able to do this because they are not tightly marked, and they cannot be tight marked unless we play without an attack of any kind. If the right-back is to be tight marked it can only be the left-winger who marks him!

With full-backs moving down the flanks and midfield players bursting through the middle, the *libero* was given a second responsibility. No longer was it enough for him to give cover to a colleague drawn into a challenge, he had also to look around continuously for opponents attempting to sneak around (or through) the defensive wall ... and pick them up. When the *libero* was first introduced he simply positioned himself behind the centre-back (s). And allow his colleagues to mark tight. He effectively stopped the typical Hungarian move of the Puskas, Kocsis era: (See diagram A).

Hidegkuti at centre-forward had withdrawn to receive a pass from Bozsik, and under the old defensive rules this had drawn a challenge from the stopper. Hidegkuti now played the ball away first time to Puskas and meanwhile Kocsis had slipped through to become the temporary centre-forward. Away went the pass from Puskas, and Kocsis was through.

Now any attempt to make a simple and straightforward attack like this would simply be presenting the ball to the *libero*.

Similarly the 4-2-4 teams with two centre-forwards exploited the inherent weakness of the 4-2-4 defence. The second centre-half was supposed to cover 5 when he was drawn, but if at the same time the man he was marking went square, then he too was in trouble: (See diagram B).

When Zito (for Brazil) played the ball up to Vava and took a return pass all Pelé had to do at inside-left was to move square. Meanwhile if Didi or another midfield player raced forward the covering stopper could either choose to follow Pelé (and leave Didi free) or stay to cover the centre and let Pelé run free. With intelligent players distributing the ball the two stoppers needed cover and the *libero* provided it.

From these two diagrams we can see that players going "in" from behind is nothing new. In the first illustration it is Kocsis coming from a deep position looking for the through pass while in the second it was Didi. Now we can see full-backs, wing-halves and inside-forwards all at various times "coming from behind" and the *libero* now has the added task of seeking them, and marking them!

The *libero* has two jobs—to cover and to mark.

If we can now expose this weakness in the *catenaccio* defence we can once more open the way to goal. And without the certainty that the *libero* will make their defence impregnable the Inter-type teams will be forced to choose between playing two *libero's* ... one to cover space and the other to pick up opponents coming from behind OR they can revert to a more open game hoping to score more goals than they give away.

We can do this quite simply (in theory) by changing the point of attack—and that too is nothing new. The long crossfield passes of the Wolves-type game hinged on this point and many fine players have been adept at switching the point of attack.

As our attack develops by playing the ball up to a front player on the left, the *libero* will be drawn over to give immediate cover. He will be on hand if any opponent attempts to come through from behind ... in that particular zone, but he will be unable to pick up an opponent who slips through the wall on the other flank: (See diagram at bottom of page).

Having watched Picchi, the *libero* of Inter, there is no doubt in my mind that a pass from midfield to the left-winger would draw Picchi across to give support to the right-back, and if at the same time the left-back moves up outside his colleague on the left wing there will be no doubt that Picchi will come to cover the threatening overlap.

As the *libero* is drawn we now have an ideal opportunity to exploit the weakness in the *catenaccio* system by switching the point of our attack from left to right. Clearly, however, there will be little point in attempting to give the ball to the right-winger or the centre-forward (who are both tightly marked). But both these players can take their shadows over towards the left ... and leaving room for the right-back to race on to a cross-field pass.

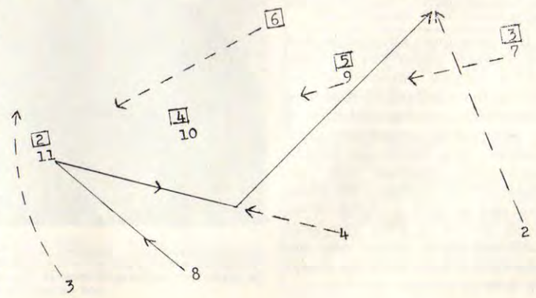
"Libero"

The only answer to an attack like this would be to have two *libero's* free behind the defence. One to give cover, and pick up men who come from behind at the point where the first probe is made, and the second to give more general cover—the *libero* as he was first seen seven or eight years ago.

But to do this will require a goalkeeper, and a line of four backs to mark, plus two *libero's* will be seven men in defence. In addition the defenders must have at least two players in front of the wall to prevent an opponent bringing the ball on alone. Without a challenge midfield players would come on until they drew a defender from his opponent. They must have a screen in front of the wall and this would account for nine men in defence and leave only two men for attack.

Even the most ruthlessly defensive team cannot hope to win matches with a two-man attack. They may avoid defeat sometimes, but in the long run it would be clearly shown that *catenaccio* is not the impregnable system it once seemed to be, and as such it will be relaxed.

If we can score goals against *catenaccio*-type teams we will force them to look for goals—but until we can score perhaps not freely but at least regularly, the defence-minded teams and coaches will retain the initiative.



Pro Soccer in South Africa

by S. C. DICKEOS

SEVERAL professional soccer clubs in South Africa have expressed concern about the importation of an ever-increasing number of overseas players to the country. They maintain that because of these importations, opportunities for South African-born players to make the grade in top-class soccer are practically non-existent. Consequently, more and more potential young soccer stars are turning their backs on the world game and taking to other sports.

To counter this alarming drain of promising material these clubs have advocated that all First Division teams in South Africa should be restricted to not more than five imported players, the remainder to be comprised of local talent. A motion that was soundly defeated by the majority of clubs in the National Football League.

However, the matter has not ended here.

Renewed attempts are being made to induce clubs to play South African-born players at the expense of their imports. The latest move in the "war" against the overseas players is a proposed scheme recommending that a tax of £250 be imposed on every imported player in the club. The idea behind this being to discourage clubs from delving into the overseas market, and to give the local player a better chance to prove himself. The money accruing from such a scheme to be used in the coaching of young South African players. A very commendable and progressive step towards developing our youngsters along the right lines. But I very much doubt whether this scheme, if accepted, will have the desired effect of curbing the importation of overseas players.

Today, professional soccer is big business in South Africa. The five major competitions of the National Football League—The Challenge Cup (equivalent to the FA Cup), League Championship, UTC Bowls, Coca-Cola Shield and the Champion of Champions—are all valued at thousands of pounds in prize money, advertising, etc., to the eventual winner. More so, to a club fortunate enough to win two or more of these competitions.

It is obvious then, that the more fashionable clubs, who are able to afford it, will make a determined effort to sweep the boards by getting the best players that money can buy. And not surprisingly, they have focused their attentions on the overseas market. For, quite frankly, the imported player has a decided edge on the local player in skill, experience and all-round ability. Therefore, despite the introduction of this scheme, these clubs would probably consider it a good investment to pay the necessary tax on the purchase of several top-class imported players, to accumulate a return of thousands of pounds in prize money.

Quite naturally, the controversy raging around the South African-born and imported players has brought forth a spate of suggestions as to how the problem can best be solved to the satisfaction of both parties.

The best of these has come from Topper Brown, knowledgeable manager of Durban United, a leading club in the National Football League. He has recommended that automatic relegation of the two bottom teams in the First Division should be suspended for two years. Thus freed from relegation fears, clubs would be more inclined to introduce a greater number of local players into their teams. Another plan with great potential, favours the introduction of a law compelling clubs to play at least one South African-born player in their team in the first year, two in the second year, three in the third year and so on, until a complete team of local players is eventually realised.

So much then, for the South African-born player. What of his counterpart — the imported player?

It is common knowledge that the overseas player has not only been largely responsible for raising the standard of soccer in this country, but has also infused it with skill, experience and glamour. His ability to read a game well, coupled with his superior ball control, distribution and tactical marking, is an object lesson to both the local adult and junior player who can only benefit immensely by studying him in action.

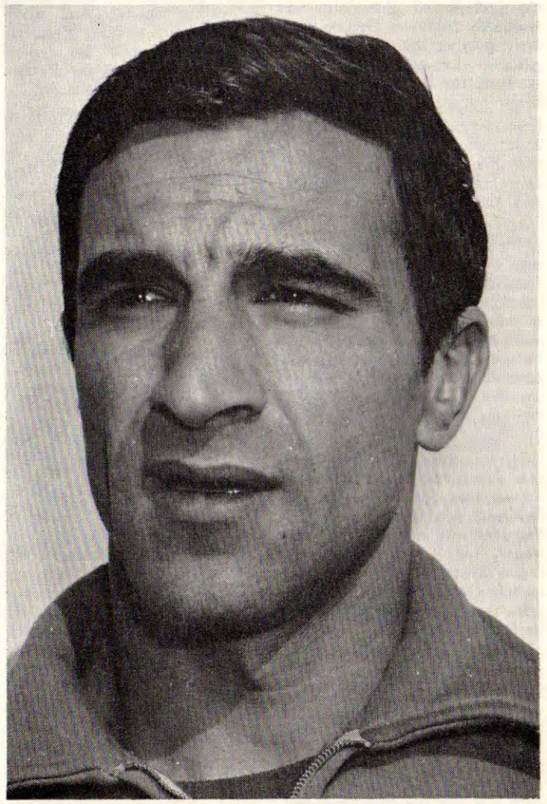
There is no doubt that soccer played properly has a high entertainment value and, in this respect, the imported player deserves credit for popularising the game in this country.

And let us not, for one moment, forget the Continental clubs like Hellenic, Corinthians and Apollon. Their teams are liberally laced with Brazilians, Greeks, Chileans, Portuguese and Israelis. These players, masters in the art of dribbling, ball jugglery and showmanship, have also contributed their fair share of excitement and colour to the South African soccer scene. They are the life-blood of these Continental clubs. Without them, these clubs would surely lose their distinctive identities and die.

It is pleasing to note, however, that Mr. Vivian Granger, general manager of the National Football League, has stated that, if the proposed scheme is accepted, the tax would be imposed on any new imports and not those already in the country.

Summing it up, I feel that it is the soccer fan who will have the last word. He pays and expects good value for his money, and the imported player is giving him just that, serving up a brand of soccer that is delighting and thrilling him. Replace this with something inferior, and he is going to lose interest and stay away. Attendances will dwindle and professional soccer will be in danger of falling away within the next few years.

At present, the game is a growing young giant striding towards new heights and, if the present trend continues, seems destined to oust rugby as South Africa's national sport — thanks mainly to the overseas player.



Thanasis Karanicolas, Apollon's agile Greek goalkeeper, one of the many Continentals participating in the National Football League. Clad completely in black, he has been nicknamed The Black Cat because of his spectacular and daring saves. (S.C.D.1.)

BRITAIN'S PROSPECTS IN EUROPE

by TOM JAGGER

ONCE more the European Cup is becoming the big talking point in all those spots where men gather, and it looks as if we may be in for a great time before the ultimate winners are sorted out.

That's good, straight English. It brings that famous international trophy into this equally famous international magazine, and roughly prepares the fan for an exciting winter.

But it hardly pinpoints the background to some of the first round games which should be completed by early October.

I'm not just thinking in terms of likely winners, but also of some of the clubs without a ghost of a chance of reaching the last two.

For instance, Glentoran. They are a lively Irish club who deservedly carried off their own championship last April, and have some good players in their ranks. But are they of European standard?

At the moment, Irish League soccer is about on a par with the English Third Division, which rates Glentoran well below the British best, and some distance short of European best.

SPORTING

It's all very sporting that they should be given a chance. After all the Laplanders are also among the motley throng. And hundreds of clubs annually enter the English Cup knowing that the only way they'll get inside Wembley Stadium will be through a ticket turnstile.

I am always behind an outside chance, hoping something will happen to completely upset the odds. But such an event seems most unlikely in a tournament of this great character.

However, if they can take their first hurdle they'll deserve a special niche in international soccer history because no less a club than Benfica will be the challengers.

The Portuguese are never anything less than accomplished. Former winners of this trophy, they have accounted for almost every top Continental team over years of chasing the prizes, and it's my firm opinion that the Irishmen will perform splendidly if they manage to hold Benfica at the first meeting in Belfast.

In fact, Glentoran fans are saying they simply must get a draw at least on their own ground, and for the simple fact that defeat in the first leg would leave supporters wide open to the taunts of Distillery's followers.

They can already point to a 3-3 result in Distillery's home tie four years ago. I well remember that occasion because Tom Finney and I discussed the match on the way back on the night plane.

Tom had been recruited for the game which will forever remain a highlight in the club's history.

TOUGH

Coming back over the Irish Sea, we anticipate a really terrific tussle in the clash between Glasgow Celtic and Dynamo Kiev.

The latter won the Russian League and Cup last winter, and, in case you know nothing at all about them let me just tell you that defeat is almost an unknown quantity to them.

They dropped only 16 points in the whole of the season's programme, finishing with this kind of goal average—66–17.

Celtic, out to keep the prize they won such a short time ago, have first crack of the whip, and I can see the sides of Celtic Park bulging with thousands locked out on the night of the battle.

Celtic set the British pace by becoming the first club from these islands to finish victorious. Manchester Utd. had always hoped to have claimed that honour, and if events had turned out that way it would have underlined their initial wisdom in defying the authorities and competing in the tournament.

I clearly remember the hullabaloo when it was first suggested that the English champions should compete each year. That was in 1955, when Chelsea had slipped ahead of both Wolves and Portsmouth to take the coveted pennant and shield.

The Stamford Bridge folk wanted to enter. FA "Brass hats" forbade them to do so. And Chelsea, lacking guts, backed down and never entered.

DEFIED

From one end of the country to the other, Chelsea's decision was cussed and discussed, and there were very definitely two schools of thought on the matter.

The discussion gradually simmered down like a pan going off the boil. Then Manchester Utd. won the title, and European Cup officials again extended a hearty invitation.

Again, too, those FA officials said "No". But Manchester Utd. had Harold Hardman as chairman—a solicitor of wiry frame and only average stature he seemed ineffective to those who did not know him. But, actually, he was just the opposite.

Members of the Lancashire County FA will bear me out there if they throw back their minds to a Blackpool meeting when Harold got up and tore strips off a lot of people.

Well, Harold, whose death was a big blow to Old Trafford, decided that his club was going in, and the FA could do just what they liked about it. They reached the semi-final at that first attempt, losing 3-5 on aggregate to the eventual winners, Real Madrid. And the crowds at those Maine Road games—they were being accommodated by Manchester City while their own blitzed ground was repaired—were terrific, and the FA was won over.

The games themselves were so exciting, that Matt Busby there and then decided he simply must win that trophy, and he's been having a go almost ever since.

This time, it seems as if they have been given merely a token task. For no one in their senses can suggest that Malta's Hibernians will present much trouble in the first round.

Anyway, the tie gives great satisfaction to two sections of the public—supporters and soldiers. In Malta, believe it or not, there is a 200-strong Manchester Utd. Supporters' Club, and most of the members have never seen the team. So this gives them their Heaven-sent chance.

It also provides the unexpected opportunity for 1,000 troops of the First Battalion of the Loyal Regiment who are stationed on the George Cross island.

One thing is certain, it will be a 55,000-plus crowd at Old Trafford, because it hardly ever drops below that figure. Which means the fans will pay nearly £15,000.

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